COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

SIR,—When I closed my last letter, I regarded the discussion of your financial statements as being, for the present, at an end. But, the Account of the CONSOLIDATED FUND, for the last year, being now made out, and laid before Parliament, I think it right to enter into an examination of it, as far as it tends to elucidate the points, which I have already discussed.

To describe the Consolidated Fund, more fully than I have hitherto done, may be necessary for the information of some few of my readers, and, I do really believe, that it is not altogether unnecessary with respect to yourself.—The CONSOLIDATED FUND consists of the net produce of all the permanent taxes, whether arising from Customs, Excise, Stamps, Letters, or Assessments, including Imprest Monies, and Monies repaid, which, indeed, makes the whole of the Public Income of the country, except the produce of the annual Land and Malt Tax and the profits of the Lottery. This Consolidated Fund is pledged for the payment of the interest, management, &c. of the National Debt, and also of the Civil List and of the special grants made by the Parliament. Whatever, therefore is, in the course of the year, brought into the Consolidated Fund, more than is required to answer these permanent charges, is called the *Surplus* of the Consolidated Fund, and is, together with the annual Land and Malt tax, the Lottery, and any other temporary resources, applied to the purpose of maintaining the army, navy, and ordnance, and to the discharge of such miscellaneous expenses as may arise within the year.—In making out the account of the Consolidated Fund, it is the custom to state, first the income arising from the taxes collected within the year, and, on the other side, the charge on account of the National Debt, Civil List, and Parliamentary Grants; after which are stated, on the income side, such heads of receipt as do not regularly occur, and, on the expenditure side, those payments for which no permanent provision is made, and also those which casually occur. The right-hand column, on the expenditure side, shews the payments that will be necessary for the year after that for which the account is made out. Such is the nature of the following account, lately laid before Parliament, and dated on the 25th of March, 1803.

Account of the CONSOLIDATED FUND of Great Britain for the Year ended 5th January, 1803.

INCOME.	£.	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	Paid in Year, ended 5th January 1803. £	s.	d.	Future annual Charge. £	s.	d.
Amount of Taxes collected in the year, ended 5th January, 1803	28,719,272	4	7	Charges on the Fund for Debt, Civil List, and grants	24,961,267	12	0¼	25,458,364	16	9¼
Money paid in by A. Newland and for dock-duty	18,239	15	7½	ToT. Masham,& R. Clark	36,500	0	0			
Arrears of Voluntary Contributions	5,000	0	0							
Add. Assessed Taxes Income Duty Ao, 1799	47,125	11	7¼							
1800	30,097	13	5¼	Additional permanent charge for Grants, &c	134,695	17	6¼	132,500	0	0
1801	119,235	7	7¼							
Goods & Shipping 1798	1,286,615	8	—	Additional temporary charge	37,450	1	5	uncertain.		
Brought to this Account from Supplies 1802 and 1803, to replace the like Sum paid out of the Consolidated Customs for Bounties on Corn, Meal, Flour, and Rice imported	49,143	19	3¼	On account loan to Emperor	497,591	8	0	uncertain.		
Total Income of the Consol. Fund for the Year ended 5th Jan. 1803	2,166,875	8	10½	Tot. payment and future charge	25,667,504	19	0	25,590,864	16	9¼
	32,423,605	9	—							

Now, Sir, after observing, that the last column of this account is intended to show what will be the charge of the Consolidated Fund for *this present year*, and for each *future year*, unless the debt or civil list be increased, I shall proceed to draw from the materials before me a clear and indubitable proof, of the correctness of my former statements, and of the fallacy of yours, respecting the amount of the *surplus* of this fund.—The total income is, we see, £32,423,605, and the total charge, or expenditure, for this present year, is £25,590,864, which, allowing the income of this year to be equal to the last, leaves a surplus of £6,832,741; and, as you, in your Ways and Means of 10th Dec. counted upon only £6,500,000, it would, to a shallow observer, appear, that you had under-rated your resources, instead of justifying the charge of exaggeration and deception, which I preferred, and which I still prefer, against you.—I might first remark, as to the expenditure, that under all the heads, where the amount is *uncertain*, nothing at all is placed, though it is quite certain that *something* will be wanted under most of them. By looking back into the detail of the account (what I have taken being only the recapitulation), it will be perceived, that the exact amount of the charges for the police offices, for instance, being uncertain, they are not included in the expenditure of the present, though they amounted, last year, to more than £20,000. I will not, however, dispute about these uncertainties; but will take the expenditure for the present year as you have given it. Coming, then, to the income side of the account, we see the sum of £32,423,605, being the total amount of the income, during the year ended 5th January, 1803. But, Sir, the total amount of the income of this present year will fall short of this sum, unless new taxes are imposed to a very considerable amount; because during last year, as I am now about to show, large sums were brought to this account, from sources, which are *now dried up*, as will be instantly perceived by looking at the seven last mentioned heads on the income side of the account, to which I beg leave to refer you, before you proceed another step.—Arrears of *voluntary contributions* are at an end; so are those of *additional assessed taxes*; so are those of *income tax*; and so are those of goods and shipping, commonly and most jocularly called *convoy duty*. All these, it is well known, are no more; and, therefore, whatever sum, arising from them, is to be found included in the income of last year, must be deducted in our estimate of the income of the present year. The seventh head of these temporary resources is the amount of *bounties on corn, meal, flour, and rice imported*. And here I must say a word or two by way of explanation. Here is the sum of £2,166,875, which is to be brought to the Consolidated Fund out of the Supplies for 1803 and 1803, to *replace* a like sum, which had been paid out of the Fund for the said bounties. This is fair enough, upon the whole, but very fallacious, shamefully, I had almost said, detestably fallacious, as to the opinion which it is calculated to give of the *income* of 1802, that is of last year. The bounties on corn, &c. imported, are paid at the Custom-house, out of the duties received there; and, of course, as their amount is with-held from the net produce of the taxes which go to the making up of the Consolidated Fund, that amount should be brought into the Fund again in the *manner* that it is here brought; but, assuredly, no more should have been thus brought into the fund of last year, than was paid at the Custom-house *during last year*. The fact is, however, that, under the head, of which I am now speaking, *two years'* corn bounties are included! Those paid in 1801, and those paid in 1802! And, that which should *not* have been included makes *more than two thirds* of the whole sum! To Lord Auckland I owe infinite obligations; I look towards him with a sort of filial gratitude; but, in nothing has he been so truly paternal as in producing the Custom-house accounts, by which I have been enabled to detect this instance of more than Flemish fraud. Look, Sir, at the Custom-house account for 1802, that is for last year, for the year of which you have here given us an account of the Consolidated Fund, and you will find that there was only £715,323, paid during the year, for corn bounties. This, therefore, was the sum which should have been replaced in the account of the Consolidated Fund for that year, but you have *replaced* it with £2,166,875!!! "To replace," say you, "a like sum *paid out of the Consolidated Fund*." You do not say, paid out of the fund *during the year* for which the account is made up: you do not *say* this, indeed; but do you not leave it to be so understood? You are not, in general, sparing of print and paper; and why not, then, make two lines of this credit, distinguishing the sum paid for corn bounties, out of the Consolidated Fund of last year, from the sum paid out of the fund of the year before? Was it not natural to do so? Was it not necessary? And, though the account, as it now stands, is not absolutely false, does it not leave a falsehood to be inferred, and are you not, if for this reason only,

fairly chargeable with ignorance, or with deception?—While, however, I make all these deductions from the total amount of the income of last year, I must make one *addition*; to wit: the probable *further produce of the new taxes, imposed last year*. As these taxes were not in operation 'till the middle of May, they did not yield so much by nearly one half, last year, as they will yield this year, and, therefore, the further produce of them must be added to the income of last year, in order to come at the income of this year, and to ascertain the amount of this year's surplus. The further produce, of which I am here speaking, was estimated by you at £2,000,000. That this is calculating to the full height will appear very plain, when it is known that these new taxes, from 12th of May to the end of the year, produced only £1,957,340 I will not, however, dispute about this: I will allow the £2,000,000 to be added, and then the result will be as follows:

TOTAL INCOME of the consolidated fund, in the year which ended on the 5th of January, 1803, including arrears of income tax, &c. &c.		£32,423,605
ADD, for further produce of new taxes, which were imposed last year, but which were under collection only part of the year		2,000,000
		34,423,605
DEDUCT. Arrears of voluntary contributions	5,000	
——— Arrears of additional assessed taxes.....	47,125	
——— Income duty (1)..	2,305,267	
——— Convoy Duty....	49,143	
——— Corn-bounties not paid out of the customs of last year, and, therefore, not to be included in the income of that year.....	1,451,552	
		3,858,087
TOTAL INCOME of the consolidated fund, in this present year, ending the 5th of January, 1804, unless increased by more new taxes		30,565,518
DEDUCT total annual charge upon this fund, as the said charge is stated at the foot of the preceding official account		25,590,864
ACTUAL SURPLUS of the consolidated fund for this present year, ending 5th January, 1804, ...		£4,974,654

(1) Besides the three sums of arrears stated in the recapitulation of the preceding account, there are three other sums, stated under the detailed heads of income arising from the sources of 1798, 1799, and 1800. These make, together £869,319. which added to the total of the three sums specified in the recapitulation, produce a total of £2,305,267. as is here stated.

This statement, Sir, is fair, clear and correct. Every thing that you can possibly ask is allowed. I have taken your own figures, and by those very figures I have produced a result, which incontestibly proves the deception, contained in your ways and means, laid before Parliament on the 10th of December. In those ways and means for defraying the expenses of the army, navy, ordnance, and miscellanies for the *present year*, ending 5th Jan. 1804, you took credit for £6,500,000, (2) as the *surplus of the consolidated fund* during the present year; and, unless your accounts now laid before Parliament are false, or, unless you augment the income of the fund by new taxes imposed this year, I have proved, that the said *surplus* will amount to no more than £4,974,654, a sum which falls £1,525,346 short, not only of your estimate of the surplus, but of *the credit which you took* on account thereof in your ways and means of the 10th of December last. To this point, Sir, I wish to hold you. You have asserted, in the face of the House of Commons, that the surplus of the consolidated fund will, during the *present year*, and upon the *present taxes*, amount to £6,500,000 at least; I assert, that if your account of last year be not false, the said surplus will amount to only £4,974,654, or thereabouts. Here we are at issue. Time alone can finally decide between us; but, in the interim, I hope the Parliament and the people will perceive, that the *grounds* of your estimate have been proved to be false, and that they will view all your future estimates with that degree of caution and distrust, which your past are calculated to excite.——I am &c. &c.

WM. COBBETT.

Duke Street, Westr. 26 *April*, 1803.

P.S.—SIR, In my last letter (see p. 586), I took notice of an error, a falsehood, in the *account of British produce and manufactures exported*. The official value of that produce and of those manufactures, exported in 1801, is, in the account which was lately laid before the House, stated at £25,699,809, whereas, in the account laid before the House last year, the said value, for the same year, 1801, was stated at £25,719,979, making a difference of £20,170. In my remarks on this error (if it can be one), I observed, that *one* of the two accounts must be false; but, there is every reason to suppose, that the last year's account was correct, and, of course,

(2) See the Ways and Means.—Register, Vol. II. p. 780.

that the falsehood attaches to that of this year; for, I find the account of last year to correspond precisely with the statement, on this head, included in the financial resolutions, which were passed by the House of Commons on the 22d of June 1802. In order to show the probable *intention* of this *error*, I will just repeat this part of the two accounts.

Acc. presented last year.				Acc. presented this year			
Yrs.	£. Value.	s.	d.	Yrs.	£. Value.	s.	d.
1798	19,672,503		9	1798	19,672,503		9
1799	24,084,213		10	1799	24,084,213		10
1800	24,304,283	13	6	1800	24,304,283	13	6
1801	25,719,979	18	6	1808	25,699,809	6	1
					27,012,108	3	10

Now, Sir, it cannot be supposed, that this was a *mistake in casting up*, because it lies not in one figure only, but in several, and in the fractional sums also. Neither can it have been occasioned by sums having been before inadvertantly brought down into 1801, which really belonged to 1800; for, as to all the former years the two accounts exactly agree. The sum of £20,170, therefore, which is taken from 1801, must be now included in 1802; and, what is the consequence? It just *turns the corner of the million*, and the first class of figures, which immediately and most powerfully strikes the eye, is thus falsely swelled from 26 to 27 *millions*. It happens, too, rather singularly, that the third figure, the figure expressing *hundreds of thousands*, in the year 1801, is lowered by the same cause from 7 to 6. This looks very much like an intentional imposition; and, though one ought not hastily to impute such an intention to accounts coming under the signature of so respectable an officer as MR. IRVING, yet, every discordance between two official papers, from the same authority, ought to be fully and satisfactorily elucidated.—The papers, to which I am referring, are not *reprints* from the parliamentary papers, but the parliamentary papers themselves; and, I repeat, that the last mentioned paper was produced at the request, and on the motion, of Mr. George Rose, whilom Secretary of the Treasury, who has not, that I have heard of, pointed out the disagreement between it and the last year's account.—You will say, perhaps, that you could not have any dishonest purpose in view, because the papers speak not of money passing through your hands, but of sums merely showing the state of trade. Very true, Sir; I never said, nor did I ever think, nor do I even now think, that you would rob the Exchequer. The attempt of the Plymouth Tinker has rivetted your moral honesty in the mind of every man who has heard of the transaction. But, because I regard you as a strictly honest man, in the moral sense of the word honest, I am not to shut my eyes against the falsehoods which appear in your financial statements; nor am I bound, as your partizans seem to contend, to attribute those falsehoods to mere ignorance, and want of capacity. The House of Commons, "the "guardians of the public purse," resolve, upon a motion of yours, that the official value of the British produce and manufactures exported in 1801, amounted to £25,719,979. 18*s.* 6*d*; and, the account now presented to the House of Commons, says, that that very same produce, and these very same manufactures, amounted to no more than £25,699,809. 6*s.* 1*d*. Either, therefore, the House of Commons did, upon your motion, make a false resolution, or, the account, now presented to that House, is false.—That you may be able to prove this false statement to have arisen from some clerical error, ought to be the wish of every one; for, unless you do it, what reliance can we, in future, be reasonably expected to place on any public account whatever? Masses of figures may be presented to our eyes, and results may be drawn from them; but who, if this matter be not satisfactorily explained, will attach any belief to either?—But, Sir, a more weighty consideration is, the contempt, to which these contradictory statements tend to expose the House of Commons. The people have been accustomed to look up to that body as the watchful guardians of the public treasure; as the effectual check upon those, through whose hands that treasure passes; and must not this confidence be shaken, when accounts, such as I have been speaking of, are sent forth under the sanction of the House of Commons? If an error of twenty thousand pounds can pass unnoticed in one account, why not in another? And, if twenty thousand, why not a million?

THE GRAND CONSULTATION.

Ambubaiarum Collegia Pharmacopolæ.
HOR. SAT. II. LIB. I.

I.

If the health, and the strength, and the pure vital breath,
Of Old England, at last, must be DOCTOR'D to death,
Oh! why must we die of *One* DOCTOR alone?
And why must that Doctor be just such a one—
As Doctor HENRY ADDINGTON?

II.

Oh! where is the great Doctor DOMINICETTI,
With his Stews, and his Flues, and his Vapours to sweat ye?
Oh! where is that Prince of all Mountebank Fame,
With his Baths of hot earth, and his Beds of hot name—
Oh! where is Doctor GRAHAM?

III.

Where are Somnambulé MESMERS' Convulsions Magnetic?
Where is MYERSBACH, renowned for his skill diuretic?
Where is PERKINS, with Tractors of magical skill?
Where's the Anodyne Necklace of BASIL BURCHELL?
Oh! where is the great VAN BUTCHELL?

IV.

Where's Sangrado RUSH, so notorious for *bleedings*;
Where's RUMFORD, so fam'd for his Writings and Readings;
Where's that COUNT OF THE KETTLE, that friend to the belly,
So renown'd for transforming Old Bones into jelly—
Where, too, is the great Doctor KELLY?

V.

While SAM SOLOMON'S Lotion the public absterges,
He gives them his gold *, as well as his purges;
But *our* frugal DOCTOR, this practice to shun,
Gives his *Pills* to the Public, the *Pells* to his SON!
Oh! fie! fie! DOCTOR ADDINGTON!
Oh! Where is DOCTOR SOLOMON?

VI.

Where are *all* the great Doctors? No longer we want
This farrago of Cowardice, Cunning, and Cant;
These Braggarts! that one moment know not what fear is,
And the next moment, trembling, no longer know where is—
Lord HAWKESBURY'S March to Paris?

VII.

Then for HOBART and SULLIVAN, HAWKEY and HERVEY—
For WALLACE and CASTLEREAGH, BEEKE and GLENBERVIE—
For EDEN and WILBERFORCE, MARKHAM and SHEE—
Give us VELNO and ANDERSON, LEAKE, SPILSBURY—
Doctor BALL, Doctors BRODUM and BREE.

VIII.

And instead of the Jack-Pudding Bluster of SHERRY,
With his "dagger of lath," and his Speeches so merry! †
Let us bring to the field—every foe to appal—
ALDINI'S Galvanic *deceptions*—and all
The *slight of hand tricks* of Conjuror VAL.

IX.

So shall GOLDING and BOND, the Doctor's tall yeomen,
Dame HILEY, Dame BRAGGE, and the other old women.
For new Mountebanks chang'd, their old tricks bid farewell to,
And the fam'd d'IVERNOIS his Arithmetic sell to—
That wonderful wonder, the great KATTERFELTO.

X.

So shall England, escap'd from her "safe politicians,"
Such an Army array of her Quacks and Physicians—
Such Lotions and Potions, Pills, Lancets, and Leeches,
That MASSENA shall tremble, our coast when he reaches,
And the CONSUL himself—his breeches.

THE DOCTOR'S MODE OF PRACTISE PROVED TO BE NEITHER NEW NOR SUCCESSFUL.

As SANGRADO, with whom you're acquainted by reading,
Prescrib'd, in all cases, *hot-water* and *bleeding*;
And thus, in a trice, all his patients did kill:
So, with equal success and political skill,
Like his brother empiric, OUR DOCTOR proceeds—
In *hot-water* he keeps us, and copiously *bleeds*.

ANTI-SANGRADO.

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* Vide in Daily Papers, Doctor SOLOMON'S Charitable Subscriptions and Abstergent Lotion.

† See Mr. GILRAY'S admirable Caricature, entitled "*Dramatic Loyalty, or the Patriotic Courage of Sherry Andrew*," just published.

PUBLIC PAPERS.

Arretéconcerning the foreigners established in the Colonies of Martinique and St. Lucia.—30th Pluviose, 11th year.—Louis-Thomas Villaret Joyeuse, Captain General of Martinique and St. Lucia; and Charles Henry Bertin, Counsellor of State, Colonial Prefect of the said Island.—On examination of the letters patent of the month of Oct. 1727, and the treaty of Amiens between the Fr. Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain.—In consequence of the just representations of the French merchants with regard to the liberty with which foreigners continue to trade at Martinique and St. Lucie, since the said Islands have been restored to France.—Considering that the justice and interests of governments require that the trade of their respective Colonial possessions should be exclusively reserved to the trade of the mother country.—That the same principle, acknowledged by all nations and enforced by the laws of all commercial countries, has been lately sanctioned again by the last treaty of peace between France and England.—Considering that the authorities of those Colonies have given to foreigners, by the facility left to them until this day to carry on trade, a sufficient proof of their wish to entertain and increase, if possible, that harmony and friendly connexion existing between their respective governments.—And lastly, considering that the losses and wants of all description, supported by the French trade during the war, makes it a duty for government to assist the restoration of the same by every possible means.—RESOLVE:—I. All dispositions of the letters patent of the month of Oct. 1727, and especially those of the title 6th, concerning foreigners established in the Colonies, which dispositions have not been since repealed by any subsequent laws, ordinances, regulations or arretes, shall be fulfilled according to their form and tenor.—II. The delay granted to foreigners by the letters patent to put an end to their commercial business is fixed to the 1st Messidor next (20th June, 1803, O. S.)—III. From that date of the 1st Messidor, all stores occupied by foreigners are to be ceded in preference, on even offers, to the Merchants or Captains of French vessels.—IV. All contracts, notes of hand, transactions or bonds made after the date of the 1st Messidor next, with foreigners, concerning operations of commerce, or trade, either on their account or as attornies, even French houses of trade, shall be void, and shall not be capable of binding the parties, unless it be for final settlements of business, or of commercial partnership.—All public officers are forbidden to make out, sign or even receive such instruments of writing,

from the above date, under penalty of 6000 livres, and of being superseded of their functions during 3 years.—V. All French merchants and traders in Martinique or St. Lucia who may have clerks, partners, agents, factors, or other foreign persons concerned in their commercial business, or who interfere therein, either directly or indirectly, are ordered to dissolve all connexions of the kind that may exist with them, between this and the 1st Messidor next (20th June, 1803), under pain against the merchants and traders, of a fine of 6000 livres; and against the foreigners, of being sentoff the Colony —One half of the fines determined shall be given to the persons who will give notice of the offenders against the preceding dispositions.—VI. Foreigners owning landed property, or houses, stores, or any establishments whatsoever, others than commercial property, are allowed to enjoy freely, and to regulate, administer and govern the same either by their own hands, or by others on their account; and to continue to reside in these Colonies under the same privilege and protection that the laws and government allow to such French citizens as are proprietors or cultivators.—VII. Such of the said foreigners whose intention will not be to reside in the said colonies, will under the same protection enjoy the facility granted to them by the 20th art. of the treaty of Amiens.—VIII. The execution of the present arrete is entrusted to the inspection of all functionaries and citizens invested with a public authority. The offences against the regulations it contains shall be prosecuted through the commissaries of government near the tribunals.—The same shall be translated, printed, published, posted up, and enregistered at the register's office of the prefecture.—A copy shall be sent to the grand judge, to be entered by his instructions on the registers of the offices of the tribunals of Martinique and St. Lucia. —Given at Martinique the 30th Pluviose, 11th year of the French republic. (Signed) *Villaret Joyeuse, Bertin.*

ON MALTA *from the Moniteur of the 20th of April* 1803.

Paris, April 20.—MALTA.—On his arrival, M. le bailli Buzi, minister plenip. and lieut. of the Grand Master, presented his letters of credence to the English commandant, Mr. Ball, and demanded of him the possession of the islands of Malta, Gozo, &c. Mr. Ball answered verbally, that he had no orders from his court authorizing him to evacuate those islands. —M. Buzi then wrote to the English commandant, and remarked, that the verbal communication did not appear to him to be sufficient; he, therefore, begged of him to explain himself in writing.—Accordingly Mr. Ball made a written communication to M. Buzi, dated March 2, and of which the following is an extract.—"You will have the goodness to observe, that it is certain the powers invited, conformably to the stipulations of the 10th article of the treaty of Amiens, to guarantee the independence of Malta, have not agreed to that measure; and that I have no authority to put an end to the government of His Brit. Majesty in this island, without special orders from my court.—Your Exc. will also observe, that it is my wish to dissuade the Grand Master from coming to reside here. In this view I beg you will recollect that I have already spoken to him.—With respect to your observation, that the Grand Master hoped to have immediate possession of the palace in Valetta, I have apprised you, that in the present circumstances, I am unable to comply with the wish of his Eminence, because it is indispensably necessary that his Exc., Gen. Villette and myself, should continue to occupy that house, on account of the official duties of our respective departments. I must, however, observe to your Exc. that, at the same time, I made a tender of the palace Du Bosquet, which appeared to me a suitable residence, until he could enter upon the fonctions of his government: but as the palace Du Bosquet is at present unfurnished, I took the liberty to suggest, that it would be preferable, and much more convenient to the Grand Master, to remain some time longer in his present residence in Sicily; and especially, as it is no more than a day's sail from hence.—Finally, his Eminence may be assured, that the moment I shall be authorised to resign the government, I shall communicate the circumstance to him.—I have the honour to be, &c."

"BALL."

M. Buzi seeing that the English commandant persisted in refusing to give up Malta to him, applied to the French minister for his good offices on the occasion.—M Buzi, by a letter dated the 1st of March, represented anew to the English commandant, the inconveniencies which may result from his conduct; and, at the same time, informed him of his application to the French minister in order to obtain his interference.—To this letter, the English commandant returned an answer, of which one phrase, as follows, is of essential importance. "I have the honour to assure you that I shall be always ready to co-operate with his Excellency the French minister, with respect to the tenor of the article in question (the 10th of the treaty of Amiens)."—The French minister in answer to the requisition of his interference, immediately wrote to M. Buzi, and assured him that a just and faithful interpretation of the treaty left no doubt respecting the evacuation of Malta by the English, and the right of its possession by the order.—The French minister has transmitted to the Grand Master a copy of what he wrote on the occasion to the English minister, which was to the following effect:—"The minister plenip. of the French republic at Malta, has received the note which his Exc the minister plenip. of his Brit. Majesty did him the honour to address to him, the 4th of March, in answer to that which the undersigned transmitted to him on the 2d day of that month.—Before he specially replies to this note, the French minister thinks it proper to state to his Excellency the minister of England that the ambas. extr. and plenip. of the Grand Master of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, has required by a formal application to the Fr. republic, the interference of its minister at Malta, in order to induce the English minister to forego his opposition to the immediate execution of the 10th article of the treaty of Amiens, and to concur in its accomplishment —The undersigned in considering the note which he has received from the minister plenip. of England, and also that which his Exc. has addressed to M. Buzi, perceives that both these notes contain a similar refusal to accede to the immediate execution of the article in question, and that in both this refusal is grounded on the same pretexts. His Exc. alleges that the powers invited under the article to guarantee the stipulated arrangements, not having acceded to the measure, he does not think himself authorised to fulfil the article, and further that he has received no special instructions from his court, for resigning the gov of these Islands to the Grand Master of the order of St. John of Jerusalem.—With respect to these two points the Undersigned has the honour to represent to his Exc. the minister of England: — 1. That the independence of these islands, and arrangements respecting them, have been placed, by 6th paragraph of art. X. of the treaty of Amiens, under the protection and guarantee of six of the most independent powers of Europe. France and G. Britain, who were the contracting parties, and who have solicited the other powers to guarantee that clause of their treaty to

peace, cannot, without giving scandal, be the first to refuse to execute these arrangements, to insure that independence, and to grant that protection and guarantee.—II. That the invitation, set forth in the 13th par. of the said art. X. to the other powers to accede to the stipulations contained in that article, is only a mark of politeness, or an honour which these powers are at liberty to refuse : but it is otherwise with regard to France and G. Britain, who have promised their protection and accepted the guarantee, by the very act of signing the treaty which contains the arrangements to be guaranteed, who thus have placed themselves at the head of the powers to whom the invitation was addressed.—III. That the non-contracting powers may refuse the guarantee, because it is a burthen which these powers are at liberty not to impose upon themselves : but how absurd would it be to believe the refusal could involve and effect the annulling of the treaty of peace, and exonerate from their engagements the powers that have signed it.—IV. That an attempt to take advantage of so frivolous a pretext, and so glaring a sophism, in order to decline doing what they themselves have consented to do, would be a breach of faith unworthy of a great power, and with which England would not most assuredly sully the page of her history.—V. That this delay in the acceptation of an honourable duty in the supposition that it exists on the part of the non-contracting powers, cannot, above all, prove injurious to a third power, that has been acknowledged and solemnly established by the contracting parties, unless the latter be disposed openly to violate their own engagements, the faith of treaties and the law of nations.—VI. That Russia, Austria and Prussia, if they have not actually acceded, as the English minister pretends, to the invitation made to them, to accept the guarantee of the island, were far from imagining that by this delay they would have prevented the re-establishment of the order of Malta, the execution of the treaty of Amiens, or compromized the tranquillity of Europe. The undersigned requires of his Exc what these powers will think, when they find that their delay in acceding to the invitation has served as a pretext for the violation of so solemn a treaty of peace —As to the declaration made by the minister of England, that he had no special instructions from his court on the subject of the resignation of the govt. of the island, or its surrender to the G. Master, the undersigned have the honour of observing to his Exc., that in quality of minister plenip. to his Brit. Majesty, the principal and immutable rule of his conduct is contained in the treaty itself ; and such was so clearly the intention of his court, that in the full powers given him, and which he interchanged with the undersigned it is positively said, "You will, on your arrival at Malta, immediately inform general Vial that his Majesty, desirous of accomplishing, with the utmost fidelity, the engagement he contracted by the definitive treaty, wishes you to take, in concert with him, the necessary measures for giving effect to the stipulations contained in the 10th article of the treaty." His Exc. might be invested with another character in that island ; but the Fr. Republic does not recognise these contradictory qualities, these opposing duties ; and the undersigned sees, in the person of his Exc., nothing but the minister plenip. of his Brit. Majesty, charged with the execution and the maintenance of treaties.—The English minister has no doubt reflected duly on the consequences of an opposition which cannot fail to astonish all Europe. He ought to have seen that this refusal was a manifest violation of the treaty of peace, and that the Brit. government, to justify its intentions, and to give a striking proof of its good faith, ought distinctly to disavow a conduct so little conformable to honour, and throw the whole odium on the minister who had resorted to it without a positive order. For if, contrary to all appearances, this violation of a treaty, which has given peace to the world, was not disapproved of by his Brit. Majesty, the First Consul of the Fr. republic would be reduced to the necessity of appealing to the tribunal of Europe, and then he would find as many allies as there are powers friendly to peace, and jealous of their dignity, their independence of the rights of sovereigns, and the rigorous observance of the faith of treaites.—The undersigned supports, therefore, in the most formal manner, the demands made to the English minister, in the name of the Gr. Master of the order of Malta, by his extr. minister plenip. M. Busi. Of consequence he demands the prompt and entire execution of the 10th art. of the treaty of Amiens.—Both the French and English ministers have written complimentary letters to the Gr. Master. —The English minister gave the Gr. Master to understand, that it was his opinion it might be better for the Gr. Master to wait at Messina for the decision of the Brit. cabinet, which he promises to communicate to him as soon as it arrived ; and he offered, in the mean time, a country house to the Gr. Master, should he be disposed to come to Malta.—The Gr. Master observed in answer to the English minister, that having through the medium of his lieut. fulfilled what was enjoined him by the article of the treaty of Amiens respecting the Gr. Master, he should wait at Messina the evacuation of the island, or the decision of the two courts.—The Fr. minister invited the Gr. Master to come to Malta without delay. The Gr. Master observed in answer, that having performed the duty imposed on him by the treaty of Amiens, by the presence of his lieut. at Malta, he must look upon every other proceeding as unseasonable at the present moment, and that he would wait at Messina the decision of the courts.—*Moniteur.*

Paris, April 20.—We read in the English journal named *The Sun*, of Saturday, April 16, the following article :—"M. de Thomasi, present Gr. Master of the island of Malta is not only a creature of French intrigue, but M. de Busi his lieut. is a Frenchman ; no doubt naturally devoted to France. Supposing the guarantee announced in the Moniteur to have been actually obtained, could England have, even under such a guarantee, any assurance that the possession of it would not be in fact French, since the lieut. of the Gr. Master, in contempt of the stipulations of the treaty of Amiens, which bear that *no Frenchman shall belong to the order of St. John of Jerusalem !*"—The same assertions are, with simular confidence, repeated in all the English papers of the same day, these being all written in the same spirit.—It is, however, grossly false, that the commander Bailli Busi is a Frenchman. He is of an ancient Italian family, which has been for several centuries resident in a town in the Papal dominions, about nine leagues distant from Rome. M. Bailli Buzi was born in that town.—Certain English journalists have a wonderful knack at making absurd suppositions to be followed by imputations which are not less absurd. They reason with the same good faith and logic as the wolf in the fable. *We recognise here the inclinations and spirit of that ferocious beast ; but we do not see any lamb ready to let itself be devoured.*—Moniteur.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Cape Français, March 6.—On the 22d ult. the division of Legborn, consisting of several thousand men, effected its disembarkation. This together

tion of force re-animated the courage of the colonists. European merchandize has considerably risen in price. Confidence increases in proportion to the measures which have been employed for the reduction of the rebels.—General Rochambeau has just transferred his head-quarters to Port-au-Prince, whither the civil and military administrations also proceed. The rebels have retired two leagues from the Cape. No delay will now take place in the opening of the campaign: already some hundreds of negroes have returned to the habitations of the plain.—The epidemic has not made any ravages here; and, what is equally fortunate, we approach nearly the propitious season.

Constantinople, March 16.—The new French ambassador has made, within these few days past, his private visits. He has been received every where in the most distinguished manner. The people appear to see with the greatest pleasure the re-establishment of amicable relations with France; above all, the commercial relations. The ministers of the Porte do not shew less eagerness in seconding the views of their sovereign, whose wish is declared for the re-establishment of the ancient political system which unites so intimately the empire of the crescent to France. On the 6th instant the Grand Vizir gave a superb fete to General Brune.

Toulon, April 13.—Rear Admiral Lesseigues has arrived in this port with the squadron which conveyed General Brune, the French Ambassador, to Constantinople. He stopped at St John d'Acre on his return, where he was perfectly well received by Djezzar Pacha. He left Alexandria on the 30th March. The English evacuated it on the 17th March. Since their departure, tranquillity appears to be re-established in Egypt. The Mamelouks were cantoned in Upper Egypt. The Rear-Admiral anchored at Malta in the midst of the English squadron, which was composed of ten ships of war. The 4000 men who had returned from Alexandria were performing quarantine at the lazaretto. In all the seaports in the Levant, to which he went for the purpose of installing the commercial commissioners, they were received by the Turks with every mark of esteem, and every demonstration of joy.—*Moniteur.*

Amsterdam, April 15.—The French troops which daily arrive on our frontiers, continue their march into the interior of the republic. At present they occupy Nimeguen, Grave, Gorenchem, and other places. The English squadron has appeared within these few days upon our Coasts.

Hague, April 15.—There have been but six or seven hundred men disembarked of the troops who were to have sailed for Louisiana. The reason for disembarking them is, that they were too much crowded on board the ships. Vice-Admiral Hartsink has just sailed for the Mediterranean.—Our government has received assurance from France, that no more French troops shall enter our territories, unless in the event of a rupture with England; and that those who have entered shall not pass the frontiers as long as the negotiation lasts.

Ratisbon, April 16.—The Imperial ratification of the last conclusum of the diet is expected here on the 20th, at which epoch the diet will resume its sittings. It was said that the delay of the ratification has principally arisen from the sending a courier to Petersburgh from the court of Vienna, which judged it proper to enter into some explanations with the Emperor of Russia, before giving its sanction to this decision of the empire.

Strasburg, April 17.—Besides the troops of the 104th demi-brigade, which are on their return from Switzerland, we expect here 3000 infantry and a regiment of cavalry, by which our garrison will be increased to 11000 men. It appears that these troops will form a camp a little distance from this city.

Brussels, April 17.—The English squadron which was lately seen off Ostend, consisted of six frigates and some cutters. They cruized along the coasts of Flanders and Zealand, to the mouth of the Meuse, where it was supposed they would join another squadron of three sail of the line and two frigates, to watch the expedition which was to sail to Louisiana; but as that expedition it now suspended, they will probably still cruize along the coasts of Holland to observe the military preparations which are carrying on.

Basle, April 19.—An arrêté has been published here of general Dejean, director in chief of the administration of war, which orders, that the French troops stationed in Switzerland shall not receive for the future any rations of meat, and that the officers shall no longer have forage. He remarks in general, that by this arrêté the military administration will have an entirely new organisation, advantageous for the troops and for the inhabitants of Switzerland.

Brussels, April 20.—All the pieces of the telegraph destined to establish the communication between Brussels and Lisle, arrived the day before yesterday at Alost. The telegraphic line will traverse the cidevant Flanders, and will be finished and in full activity before the arrival of the First Consul. The geographical engineer, Chappe, director and inventor of telegraphs, has determined all the positions It is understood that the telegraphic line will be continued by Antwerp unto the frontiers of the Batavian republic.

Brussels, April 22.—General Belliard is at present employed in examining the coasts of Dutch Flanders. He has given directions for the establishment of military posts, such as they were in the last war. In the island of Cadsand, the batteries and entrenchments are completing with the greatest celerity. A part of the French troops that have arrived at the island of Walcheren, are cantoned on the heights. They amount to about 6000 men. The English squadron cruizing off our coast, has been increased within these few days.

FOREIGN OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Translation of a Letter from the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, to the Sec. of the U. States.—Washington, March 10, 1803.

"Sir, When you represented to me, towards the end of November last, that the port of New Orleans had been shut against the Citizens of the United States, without the assignment of any equivalent place of deposit for their merchandise on the banks of the Mississipi, according to the stipulation of the 22d article of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation, between the King my master, and the United States, I did not hesitate to declare to you, that I considered this measure as flowing solely from the mistaken zeal of the Intendant of Louisiana, without the approbation, and even without the knowledge of my Court. I well knew the sincere desire of the King my master to live in peace and good harmony with the United States, as I well knew the scrupulous good faith with which the Spanish Government fulfils the engagements which it forms, particularly when they are founded on the solemnity of a Treaty.—I have now the satisfaction of informing you, that my first opinion has been verified, and of declaring, in the most positive terms, that the proclamation of the Intendant is an act purely personal, without the sanction, and even without the knowledge of his

Catholic Majesty. In reality, if the said proclamation had appeared here in an entire state, no doubt could have taken place as to the source of this proceeding. But the operative part thereof merely has circulated through the United States; the preamble introducing it having been, probably without design, omitted.—I have therefore the honour to communicate herewith an entire and correct copy of the aforesaid proclamation; and by the expressions I have underlined, it will be clearly seen that the arrangement is absolutely personal, and has originated from the faculties which the Intendant supposed to be incident to his station. —This assertion is not founded merely on the obvious inferences from these expressions. The Intendant himself declares it to me in the most positive terms, in a letter of January 13, which I have just received from him, and the Governor of the province confirms the same thing with the same solemnity, in another letter of the same date. Neither the one nor the other dispute the right of the Citizens of the United States to a place of deposit on the Spanish banks of the Mississippi; but the Intendant thinks that the term of three years, allowed for the purpose of New Orleans, having expired, and much prejudice to the royal interests being experienced from its continuance in that city, it was incumbent on him to suspend the deposit there, without venturing to take on himself the assignment of another equivalent place. Not because he doubted the right of the inhabitants of the United States thereto, but because it appeared to him to be an act exceeding his authority, and which he ought to leave to the Royal determination of our Sovereign.—The Governor of Louisiana saw the subject under a point of view more correct, in my judgment, and more favourable to the inhabitants of the United States.—From the whole, it results that the suspension of the deposit not being an act of my Court, and no person ever disputing the right of the American Citizens in the case, I shall now take upon myself to adopt measures which must insure to the United States the enjoyment of all the rights stipulated in the 22d article of the Treaty, on the arrival at New Orleans of the dispatches, which will be forwarded under this date."

DOMESTIC.

Meeting of Ship-Owners.—On Tuesday the 26th inst. there was a numerous and respectable meeting of persons concerned in the shipping interest, held at the London Tavern. Mr. P. Kennion was voted to the chair.--Mr. Atcheson, the secretary, informed the meeting, that in consequence of the instruction which he had received from their committee, he had endeavoured to get a copy of the consolidation schedule. This, however, he had found it impossible to obtain. But he had seen and read it; and there could be no doubt that it was the intention of Mr. Addington to continue the tonnage duty.—Mr. Brown moved a resolution, expressive of the impolicy of the duty, and declaratory of their opinion of its injuring the carrying trade, and materially affecting the commerce of the country.—Mr. Hill observed, that the committee had been entrusted with powers to make application for the repeal of that duty, which was so obnoxious to the persons concerned in the shipping trade, and in fact so subversive of the general commercial relations of the country. This they would have done, but that the important change in the aspect of political affairs had induced them not to shew any thing like an inclination to embarrass the intentions of Government at this momentous crisis. A few days since, however, they had learned that it was the intention of Mr. Addington to renew the duty. A number of shipowners had thought it a duty incumbent on them, as a necessary measure of self-defence, to call the present meeting.—The resolution was read a second time, and agreed to unanimously.—The secretary, in a short, but impressive speech, denied that the opposition to the tonnage duty was the effect of the influence of a few powerful individuals. It was the spontaneous act of the whole body of the shipping interest, conscious how much their interests were affected by its oppressive operation.—Mr. Akenhead spoke warmly against the tax.—The thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to the L.Mayor, for the part he had taken in the opposition to the tax, and his Lordship was requested to continue his exertions for the attainment of the important object of its repeal.---The thanks of the meeting were then moved to the late and present chairman, and the meeting adjourned.

Official dispatches have been received from Sir Roger Curtis, announcing that the Cape of Good Hope was actually surrendered to the Dutch on the 21st of February last. These dispatches were brought by the Penguin sloop of war, of 18 guns, which had just reached Portsmouth from this quarter, after a passage of two months and two days. It was surrendered in consequence of advices received to this effect by the Concorde. Prior orders for retaining it had been received a short time before, not only by the Imogene, but by the Fiorenzo frigate, capt. Bingham.---On the 20th of February a proclamation was issued by general Dundas, absolving all the inhabitants of the colony from their oath of allegiance to His Britannic Majesty.---Sir Roger Curtis and his squadron, with the troops, may be expected in a few days. They were to sail the latter end of Feb. An officer and a few men came home in the Penguin.

From the London Gazette, April 23, 1803.—*Carlton-House, April* 22, 1803.—The Prince of Wales has been pleased to appoint the Rev. Alexander Brodie, A.M. of Trinity College, Oxford, to be one of his Royal Highness's Chaplains in Ordinary.

Bankrupts.—Hitchen, W. Liverpool, merchant.—Lister, M.D. Southwall, Nottinghamshire, druggist.—Hull, W. Upper Boddington, Northamptonshire, and Lawrence Hull, Banbury, Oxfordshire, cow dealers.—Kennett, R. Charlotte Row, New Road, Mary-le-bonne, upholder.—Hudson, J. Devonshire Square, merchant.—Harris, J. Exeter, coach-maker.—Jones, J. Wood-street, Cheapside, Leghorn hat warehouseman.—Watkins, W. Hereford, joiner.—Agnew, J. Grosvenor Square, banker.—Donald, J. Aldermanbury, warehouseman.—Chater, W. Charles-street, Long-Acre, coach spring-maker.—Jones, T. Aust, Gloucester, vintner.—Freeman, W. Stamford Baron, Northampton, grocer.—Johnston, W. Whitehaven, Cumberland, mercer.—Jacobs, S. Tabernacle Walk, Finsbury Square, dealer and chapman.—Gane, J. Bridgewater, Somerset, inn-keeper.

Births.—On Sunday, at her house in Lower Brook-street, Lady W. Beauclerk, of a daughter. —Same day, at the Marquis Cornwallis's, in Burlington-street, the Lady of Lord Viscount Brome, of a daughter.

Marriages.—On Thursday, at Aston Chaple, the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, to Miss Charlotte Lloyd. —Lately, at Wicklow, the Hon. Lord Kenna, of Ballyguile, to Miss Farrel.

Deaths.—On Sunday, at his house in Piccadilly, Sir John Smith Burgess, Bart —On Wednesday, at Paul's Cray, in Kent, the Dowager Lady Hoghton, relict of the late Sir Henry Hoghton, Bart.—On Monday, at Bedford, Sir John Payne, Bart.—On Saturday, at Exmouth, aged 62, Major-General William Elliott, late of the Hon. E. India Company's Artillery, Bengal.

PRICE OF STOCKS.—APRIL.

Day of Month.	Omnium	Bank Stock	3 pr. C. R. An.	3 per C. Con.	4 pr. C. Con.	5 pr. Ct. Ann.	5 per Ct. 1797.
17	13½	—	63⅛	64⅝	79	99⅜	97¼
18	—	167	63½	64½	79¾	100⅛	97¾
19	—	—	64¼	65¼	81¼	101⅝	99½
20	9¼	173	66⅛	67⅜	83⅜	102	101
21	—	173¾	66¾	67¼	84⅛	101	100⅝
22	—	169	64¾	68½	82	98⅞	96¼
23	—	168	63	63¼	81¼	98¼	97½
24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26	—	169½	64¼	64⅞	82⅛	99½	98¼
27	—	170⅓	64⅜	65⅛	82½	100⅜	99½
28	—	—	64⅜	65½	82½	100½	99¼
29	—	—	—	65	—	—	—

FRENCH FUNDS.

April 15..	54 f. 25 c.	April 22..	54 f.
16..	53 80	23..	54 10
18..	52 85	24..	54 10

LONDON COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Amster. c. p.	36 4	2 us.	Leghorn	50¾	
D°, at sight	35 3		Naples.....	40¼	
Rotterdam	36 5	2 us.	Genoa	46¼	
Hamburgh	34 4	2 us.	Venice, 58 livres piccole		
Altona....	34 5	2 us.	effective per £. ster.		
Paris 1 day	24 7		Lisbon	66¾	
Paris	24 12	2 us.	Oporto	66¾	
Bourdeaux,	24 13		Dublin	14	
Cadiz ...	36¼	eff.	Bilboa	36½	
Madrid ..	36⅜	effective	Agio, bank on Hol. p.		

PRICES CURRENT IN LONDON.

Eng. Wheat pr q.	45s. to 58	Hops per cwt.	160s to 180s
Rye.....	32 .. 35	Hay per load....	86 .. 130
Barley.....	20 .. 25	Beef, per st.	4s.8d. to 5s.6d.
Malt.....	40 .. 45	Mutton	5s. 0d. to 6s 0d.
Oats	15 .. 21	Veal	4s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.
Pease (white)....	35 .. 41	Pork....	4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d.
Beans (horse	28 .. 33	Tallow	0s. 0d.
Flour per sack ..	43 .. 47	Av. of Sugar pr cw	41s.4½d.
Seconds.....	40 .. 43	Salt, per Bushel	13s.10d.
Coals per chal....	51 .. 00	Bread 9d the Quar. Loaf.	

SUMMARY OF POLITICS.

NON-RESIDENCE OF THE CLERGY.—The bill, now before parliament, relative to this most important subject, we have thought it our duty to insert, at full length in the Supplement to the present sheet, p. 651. It is a matter, in which every man, in every parish in the kingdom, is interested; and, we hope, it will not pass into a law, till it has undergone a cool and ample discussion.—At the present moment, we have not room to give our humble opinion upon it; but we cannot refrain from pointing out three things, which appear to us as objectionable: 1. the ex post facto provisions contained in the first and second clauses of the bill, as far as they go to impair the just demands of the persons, by whom informations have been laid against non-resident clergymen: 2. The list of exceptions, in the eleventh clause, is, we think, by far too copious: 3. The power given to the bishop, in the fifteenth clause, to allow of residence out of the parsonage-house, in case the person having the living, or any one of his relatives, should have a house in the parish, wherein the parson should reside. We have not room to go into any remarks even upon these points, and have only just mentioned them here, in order to direct towards them the serious attention of our readers.

AMERICA AND LOUISIANA.—Our conjectures respecting the conduct of France towards the United States of America, relative to Louisiana and the Mississippi, are now completely verified. By letters, which we have received, dated 23d of March, it appears, that, in consequence of a communication from the Spanish Minister in America to the American government, and of a more important communication to the same, from Mr. Chancellor Livingston, the American Minister at Paris, the whole dispute respecting the deposit at New Orleans, has been, as we said it would be, entirely hushed up for the present.—The Spanish Minister in America, who is nothing more than a tool of the French, states, that the hostile measure at New Orleans originated in a *mistake* of the Intendant at the port! And Mr. Livingston tells his government, that France has not the least inclination to violate any of the rights, or abridge any of the privileges, now enjoyed by the Americans, in virtue of their treaty, made with Spain, in 1795.—The consequences will be such as we pointed out in p. 297, of the present volume, to which we beg leave to refer our readers.—And, one of the steps, which we are taking to prevent these consequences, is, the sending, as our Minister to the United States, ANTHONY MERRY, Esq.!!!! This gentleman will make a noble figure by the side of GENERAL BERNADOTTE, who is now upon the point of his departure for that country. Poor Mr. Merry! What can he do? What use will he be of? His hand will not be wanted to counter-sign pass-ports in America. There are no crouching English nobility there, whom he may serve as gen-

tleman usher; and, as to any other public function, how can he be possibly fit for it? Bernadotte will ride over him. He will tread him down into the dirt; and we should not be at all surprized to hear, that the unfortunate representative of our Sovereign had been literally driven from the city of Washington. This is a hopeful prospect with respect to a country much more important to us, at this time in particular, than any other in the world.

DECREE AT MARTINICO.—On the 19th of February a decree was issued at Martinico, by VILLARET JOYEUSE, Captain General of that Island and of St. Lucia, concerning foreigners established in the said colonies. This decree, which will be found at full length in page 618 of the present sheet, has been, in some of the London papers, represented as a violation of the treaty of Amiens, on the part of France, because it is said to compel British subjects, in those islands, to dispose of their property by the 20th of June next. The 3d resolve of the decree has no such meaning as this. It only provides, that, *from* (that is to say *after*) the 20th of June next, such persons, if they dispose of their shops and warehouses at all, shall, on *even offers*, give the preference to French merchants and captains of ships; and, there must be every reason to presume, that none but such persons will make them any offers. According to the treaty of Amiens, article XIII. British subjects are allowed three years "to *dispose* of all their property, whether acquired or possessed by them, before, or during the continuance of the war." This certainly can be extended no farther than to the property, which they had in the colonies at the time the treaty was concluded. It can never be construed to mean, that they should continue to import, to *buy* as well as to dispose of property. And, therefore, it does appear to us, that their having been allowed to bring goods from France to make up assortments, in order to get their own goods off, ought to be considered as an indulgence.—The 4th resolve of the decree is necessary to the due execution of the third; and as to the 5th, it relates merely to Frenchmen, who have foreigners under them or connected with them.—We have thought these observations not altogether unnecessary at this time, because, when a party has just ground of complaint, he never ought to weaken it by frivolous charges; and, it is truly lamentable to hear the decree at Martinico a subject of outcry in the mouths of those very persons, who revile you for representing as breaches of treaty, the subjugation of Holland and the partition of Germany.

TONNAGE-DUTY.—When people complain against taxes, of any sort, their complaints are always to be heard with great caution, not to say suspicion. Till something can be found to re-place it, most assuredly this tax ought not to be given up; but, if any thing can be so found, to persevere in a duty on tonnage will require arguments such as we have not yet heard to support a justification of the minister. At any rate, his conduct has in this, as in every other instance, been marked by a most disgusting mixture of cunning and of folly. He knew, that the Lord Mayor had been instructed to bring forward and support a petition for the repeal of the duty on tonnage. He obtains a suspension of the Lord Mayor's proceedings, under the pretext that they might indirectly tend to embarrass the negotiations going on with France, and *during this suspension*, he brings forward his consolidation act, *including and confirming the duty on tonnage!*—And, will any one say, then, that he is not worthy of the house in Richmond Park?—The consolidation act once past, with what consistency can the Parliament entertain a proposition for the total repeal of a duty, which they have just before confirmed, by making its rates part of a permanent code of custom-house law! The ship-owners, aware of the obvious intention of the Minister, have, however, begun to take measures to frustrate it. They held a meeting, at the London Tavern on the 26th inst. at which they resolved to bring their grievances immediately forward. It was stated at this meeting, that "the Chancellor of "the Exchequer had called this tax, a tax "of *experiment*, and that he stood pledged to "the House of Commons and to the country, to shew and prove the result of it. "That he had now had the experience of "a year. We are (said one of the meeting) "here assembled to consider of the farther "means necessary to oppose it, and we "have a body of evidence to bring forward "in support of our objections, and to prove "that we are *navigating our ships to no profit*; "the Minister stands pledged to the public "and us to prove what has been the state of "the shipping-interest for the last twelve "months."—In this we perfectly agree. We, too, have proof, in abundance, that the shipping and the sailors are fast departing from the country. What we foretold, above a twelvemonth ago, has been perfectly realized. We opposed this duty, the moment it made its appearance; but, we cannot forget, that MR. BURDON, the favourite of the ship-owners, sanctioned the peace, which has produced the far greater part of the falling off in their profits, and that, so late as

December last, the said Mr. BURDON stood foremost amongst the eulogists of that very minister, of whom they now complain, not because he has bartered away the honours won by the valour of their forefathers, not because he has imprinted indelible infamy on their country, not because he has done a deed that will bring the grey hairs of their Sovereign with sorrow to the grave, but because he has laid his hand upon their beggarly interests!—Nevertheless, as these interests are intimately connected, more so than those of almost any other description of men, with not only the interests, but with the naval strength and the independent existence of the country, they will, we hope, be manfully and effectually supported by the parliament.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—By referring to our domestic intelligence, p 626, it will be perceived, that the Cape of Good Hope, has, at last, been surrendered entirely into the hands of the Dutch, and that, too, at the very moment when we were arming for a war, in which the Dutch, according to existing treaties, sanctioned by the treaty of Amiens, must be our enemies! We imagine, that this news will give a new turn to the present negotiations; and, we are very happy to see, that the *orders* and the *counter-orders*, respecting this important colony, have, at last, become a subject of discussion in Parliament. LORD FOLKSTONE brought forward, on the 28th instant, a motion for copies of the dispatches sent to, and received from, our commander at the Cape. This motion was superseded by the order of the day, upon the ground, on the part of the ministers, that it tended *to embarrass the present negotiations with France!* But what can the Cape of Good Hope, which is now no longer in our hands, which was finally surrendered in virtue of an order sent out in November last; what, in the name of common sense, can this colony have to do with negotiations now pending with France, negotiations upon a dispute, *which must necessarily have arisen* SINCE *the date of that order!* The ministers said, they had hoped, that no *detached* questions, respecting their conduct, would be agitated, but that the whole would be embraced in *one discussion*. This is precisely the evasive language which they held previous to the discussion of the definitive treaty. They wish to crowd all the numerous and important subjects necessary to be discussed, the rise, the progress, the result, and the probable consequences of their remonstrances respecting Switzerland, of their re-capture and subsequent surrender of the Cape, of their non-evacuation of Goree, of their delay to evacuate Egypt, of their new conventions respecting Malta, of their present retention of that island, of their Message to Parliament, of their calling out the militia without lawful cause, of the decrepitude of the navy, and of the depreciation of public credit; all these they wish to crowd into the discussion of one single evening, consisting of eight hours, six of which will be taken up with their own studied sophistical harangues. How is the Parliament to proceed to an examination into their conduct, without being *previously* possessed of the papers, from which alone a just opinion of that conduct can be formed? And of these papers, what part is at once so necessary and so entirely unconnected with the subjects of the present negotiation, as that part which relates to the Cape of Good Hope? This colony is no longer ours: it once was; and, surely, it may now be permitted to the House of Commons to enquire when, and how it was disposed of!——But, say they, LORD FOLKSTONE, at the same time that he disavows any intention to embarrass the present negotiations, clearly signifies it to be his opinion, that *these negotiations* are closely *connected with our proceedings at the Cape*. Not so. His lordship said (we quote the True Briton), that "he wanted "to compare the date of the receipt of the "dispatches, which informed ministers of "the detention, or re-capture, of the Cape, "with the date of his Majesty's Message to "that House, because he did believe, that "*those dispatches conduced to the Message and* "*the consequent armament*." And, in order to show that these measures could be produced by no other cause, his lordship cited the declarations of the French official paper, and of Buonaparté himself. But, because he thought that the news of the re-capture of the Cape was the real cause of the Message and of the armament; because he thought, that the present dispute with France was *invented* for the purpose of disguising the real motive of that Message and that armament, did it follow, thence, that he regarded the *Cape itself* as a subject of discussion *at this time*, when it is known that the place is no longer in our hands? All that his lordship seems to have asked for, was, to be informed of the time when ministers *received an account of the re-capture of the Cape*, in order that he might compare it with *the date of the King's Message*. What possible inconvenience to the present negotiations could arise from the giving of this information? It might, however, have produced great inconvenience *to the ministers*; for, unless we are greatly deceived in the papers, called for by Lord [illegible] would have completely stripped [illegible]

mask, and would have discovered to the astonished beholders, that the Cape of Good Hope, that this colony now no longer in our possession, and on which we shall never set foot again, has been the cause, the only true cause of all our warlike array!—The French allege, and with every appearance of truth, that the King's Message, together with the subsequent hostile preparations on the part of this country, had no other foundation than *the apprehensions, which the ministers entertained of the consequences that might arise from their forcible retention of the Cape.*—The French official gazette has uniformly asserted, in flat contradiction to the Message, that, as to "*military preparations* carrying on in the ports of France and Holland," there were none other than those which had been carrying on ever since the conclusion of the peace: and that, with respect to "*discussions* subsisting between his Majesty and the French government," there were, at the date of the Message, not only none "of *great importance*," but that there were no discussions *at all* then so subsisting. These assertions have been corroborated by Buonaparté's own declaration, made to Lord Whitworth, in the presence of the ambassadors of all the courts of Europe; and, we, for our parts, believe them to be perfectly correct.—Upon a mature consideration, therefore, of all the circumstances, past, present, and prospective, we look upon the following as being the true history of the message and of the armament, and to this disgraceful history we beg leave to call the attention of every one of our readers.—In the month of October last, the ministers were seized with a fit of vigour, which led them to resolve on keeping possession of Malta, the Cape, Demerara, &c. by way of counterpoise against the encroachments of France, in Italy, Switzerland, and Holland. In consequence of this resolution, they dispatched an order to retain the Cape, Demerara, &c. and soon after inserted, in the True Briton, the following observations, intended to prepare the Public for a favourable reception of the measure. "His Majesty's "ministers cannot proceed to carry into "effect the articles of the treaty with France, "which relate to the cessions to be made, "*without new stipulations.* If the Chief "Consul annexes Piedmont to the republic, "*let us keep Malta*; if he interferes in the "affairs of Holland, *let us keep the Cape, "Demerara, and Essequibo.*" This article appeared on the 30th of October, the order to retain the Cape and Demerara having been some days at sea. On the 1st of November arrived the Moniteur, containing a sort of manifesto, (1) in which France repeated her determination to exclude this country from any concern whatever in the affairs of the continent, but, in which manifesto, the Consul threw all the blame of misunderstanding, not upon the English ministers, but upon *their restless opponents*, expressing, at the same time, his hope, that those turbulent spirits would not be "able "*to produce a change* in the PRUDENT "MINISTRY by which Great Britain is "governed." This manifesto caused an entire, and almost instantaneous, change of system in the English cabinet; and, on the 5th of November, only four days after the manifesto was received in London, the True Briton conveyed an indication of this change: "The King's ministers will be *moderate*, but "firm. They must recollect how much the "relative situation of France with this coun"try is changed since the signature of the "treaty of Amiens; but, *if any compromise "can be made with respect to the conquests we "still retain*, reserving to us even *less* than "our just demands, we trust, they will be "disposed to evince their moderation by ac"cepting such compromise, *rather than have "recourse to the dreadful alternative of war.*" In conformity with this sentiment, though France had, in the interim, formally completed the annexation of Piedmont, and had interfered, in a manner more direct than ever, in the affairs of Holland, the ministers determined to revoke their order for the retention of the Cape, Demerara, &c. and the counter-order was, accordingly dispatched, in the hope that it would overtake the order for retention, which, in that case, would never have been either executed or heard of. But, on the other hand, if the order for the retention arrived first, and in time to be executed, they had to prepare against the odium and the hostility, to which the intelligence of its execution must inevitably give rise. In this state of suspense, therefore, they called upon Parliament for large peace establishments, disguising the real motive under the broad pretext of being in a state of preparation against the vast power and ambitious views of France, as if that power and those views had recently made their appearance! If news had arrived, that the counter-order (the order to give up the Cape) had *overtaken* the order to retain it; if such news had been received, then an excuse would have been framed for reducing the establishments, or, those establishments would have existed upon paper only. But, unfortunately for the Richmond-Park mi-

(1) See Register, Vol. II. p. 565.

nisters, though their order against Demerara was too late, that for the retention of the Cape arrived in time, and was punctually executed. Of this *they had intelligence on the 6th of March, in the night.* On the 7th, at seven o'clock in the morning, dispatches arrived at Windsor, whereupon the King, who was preparing to hunt that day, gave directions for his immediate return to London. He arrived about one o'clock, and a cabinet council was held at Buckingham-House at three o'clock, at which council the message was determined on, and the proclamation, for encouraging seamen to enter, was signed. The next day, the 8th of March, the message was communicated to Parliament, and press warrants were issued and executed. On the 10th of March, two days after the message had been communicated, the Public heard rumours of *the retention of the Cape*; and, a few days later, that event was circumstantially announced, through the English news papers, to the astonished governments of France and Holland, who had never before received the slightest intimation of the matter! This was war to all intents and purposes. General Dundas absolutely *captured* the Cape, and the instrument by which he took possession of it was, accordingly, called a *capitulation.* The effect which this would have had, if it had found us in a state of *profound peace*, the ministers foresaw; and, therefore, they invented the pretexts, held forth in his Majesty's message, of "military preparations in the ports "of France and Holland," and of "important discussions between his Majesty and "the French government." To have suffered the capitulation of the Dutch garrison at the Cape to come upon the country unarmed, unprepared for, and unexpecting war; to have suffered this event to be announced to Europe, at a moment when our ministers were, in every possible way, inculcating the opinion of *permanent peace*; this would have been too glaring, too evidently perfidious, and too hostile to the interests of the country, not to have shocked even the most stupid and most base part of the nation. Therefore they armed; therefore they feigned pretexts of alarm; therefore they raised a war-like bustle, amidst the circumstances of which, the re-capture of the Cape might find a sort of tacit justification, in the minds, at least, of all those who would not reflect, that the "military preparations" and "important discussions" of the month of March could form no ground for re-capturing the Cape in the *preceding December.*— Having grounded their armament upon the double pretext of extraordinary military preparations, and of diplomatic discussions, and, being well assured, that the former did not exist, they were compelled to *make* the latter; and, if ever the papers relative to the present negotiation are made public, it will be seen, that it originated with them, and that, too, at the very same time that the message was resolved on. Why did they fix on Malta as the subject of dispute? Because they had nothing else left in their hands. Their counter-order would, they knew, deprive them of the Cape; Demerara, &c. were gone before; Egypt was demanded by the Porte, and nothing remained but Malta. That there existed, *previous* to the message, no dispute about this place is evident from several circumstances. They had, we now find, given up the point as to the suppression of the Langues of Castille and Aragon; they had consented to the mode of election, by which the Bailli Thomasi became Grand Master; the non acceptance of the powers *invited* to join in the guarantee could be no lawful obstacle to the fulfilment of the treaty; and, the Consul of France, in opening the session of the legislature, stated the final evacuation to be at hand. "Some "British troops," said he, "still remain at "Alexandria and Malta: of this our go-"vernment had a right to complain, but it "*has learned*, that the ships destined to con-"vey them to Europe, *are in the Mediterra-"nean.*" This was the light in which the Consul viewed the state of the affair of Malta, on the 22d of February, only thirteen days previous to the date of the King's message. The French government had, before that time, had a "right to complain" of delay in the evacuation of Malta; but, at the time of making the address (22d of February,) "*it had learned*" that the ships, destined to convey our troops home, "*were "in the Mediterranean.*" From *whom* had it *learned* this? From our ministers? Yes; and we would venture our lives, that they put off, from day to day, the evacuation of Malta, for no other purpose in the world, than that of having *something to make a dispute about*, some excuse for arming the country, in case their order for retaining the Cape should be carried into execution before their counter-order arrived. At any rate, there could not be, on the 22d of February, any discussions respecting Malta between his Majesty and the government of France; for, if there had, Buonaparté never would have spoken on the subject in the words here correctly cited from his speech; he never would have described all matter of complaint as being put an end to by the arrival of the ships destined to carry away the British troops. If, then, there were no discussions existing, thirteen days previous to the date of the message,

what "important discussions" could have arisen in that short space of time? Buonaparté has declared, that there were no discussions at all existing, even at the date of the message; and, as the ministers have not contradicted him, so we believe they cannot do it, without being guilty of a direct and unqualified falsehood, which it is in his power, at any time, to detect and expose.—To the retention of the Cape, therefore, and to that alone, we must look for the real cause of the message, of the armament, of the present negotiation, and of the war, if a war should be the result: to an order, issued on no better ground than the republican sallies of the news-papers in favour of the Swiss, and revoked from no other motive than that of preserving ministerial power and emolument through the friendship of Buonaparté; to this order, to this act so worthy of the "*safe* "politicians," we must attribute all the alarm, the uncertainty and embarrassment that have arisen, all the enormous expense that will arise, and all the blood that may flow, from the present hostile preparations.—That Malta, or any other of our conquests, would be justly retained is certain; because France has been, from the day the treaty was concluded, in a continual infraction of it: that war, too, is necessary, and that, in a few months, it will be unavoidable by any other means than that of subjugation to France, no man not blinded by ignorance or baseness will deny: but, that Malta should have been retained, and that the country should be placed in its present situation, from a cause such as we have described, is a consideration that would rouze any people not perfectly reconciled to humiliation and disgrace.—Towards such a people the ministers, provided they can come with peace in their mouths, will not find it difficult to make a satisfactory excuse for their conduct. The most trifling shew of compensation for all this embarrassment and expense will suffice. *Something*, however, must be invented. With a very great majority nothing at all, nothing but the bare name of peace, will be necessary; but there are a few persons, who will ask for a little more, and to obtain this little is, we imagine, the only object which the ministers now have in view. Buonaparté, on the other hand, thinks himself sufficiently generous in pardoning their capitulation at the Cape; yet, *for the sake of keeping them in their places*, 'till he is quite prepared to make an attack upon Ireland or England, he may possibly furnish them with something wherewith to give to their measures the appearance of having had a legitimate and laudable object. To obtain this boon they are now upon their knees before him; and, as they will, in return, make to him any sacrifice of the permanent interests of their country, they will, for this and for the before-mentioned forcible reason, be very likely to obtain it. The precise nature and amount of this boon it would be difficult even to guess at. Some miserable accommodation about Malta will probably take place; some quirking compact, which shall have the sound of dignity with the sense of disgrace; something or other that shall satisfy the selfish, deceive the ignorant, and, by the means of their united noise, silence the loyal, the patriotic, and the wise. Not for their country, therefore, but for themselves are they now negotiating with Buonaparté, seeing that no hope can be entertained of success with Mr. Pitt.

CHANGE OF MINISTRY.—And, is it with men like these that the Fitzwilliams, the Spencers, the Grenvilles, the Pitts, and the Windhams are to join! Will they assume a share of the responsibility for the retention of the Cape? Will they, too, crouch at the feet of Buonaparté? Will the Moiras and the Greys do this, for the sake of partaking in the honours of the Richmond Park ministry? No. Most assuredly they will not; and, therefore, no change will take place, 'till we receive a blow that shall shake the monarchy itself to the centre. —Lord Melville, indeed, together with the Roses, the Longs, and some few others of that description, are, we believe, tendering their services to the ministry; but, this set is worn out; they are absolutely blown upon by the nation. The ministers want *protection*, and that, they well know, is not to be found from those who are willing to join them. They want *shelter*, which they would not find under the battered, brazen shield of Lord Melville, though backed by his trusty and well-disciplined clan.—No; the ministers, the "*safe* politicians," want associates whose talents and whose influence will operate as an *act of oblivion* for all that has been done since the signature of the peace. For this end, they would surrender a part of their power and emoluments; but, if their conduct is to be enquired into, if they are, in good earnest, to be made answerable for the great and numerous evils which they have brought upon their country, then there is no motive for yielding any portion of their places, which they, doubtless, regard as a sort of *hush-money*, given to those who may join them. And, again we ask, will the Fitzwilliams, the Moiras, the Spencers, the Grenvilles, the Pitts, the Windhams, or the Greys, take this hush-money? Will they thus dishonour

and debase themselves in the eyes of their country and of the world? And, were this thing possible, would the people silently witness so shameful, so detestable a juggle? Yes, the people not only might, but they would; for, such is the state of indifference, into which the disgraces of the last eighteen months have reduced them, that we, from our souls believe, that they would not utter a remonstrance, though Jersey, Guernsey, and the Isle of Wight should be yielded to France, and though they themselves should be called upon to pay tribute to Buonaparté. But, to rouze them from this state, this deadly state, is, or ought to be, now the object of those who wish to save the country; and, is this object to be effected by a low selfish juggle, such as we have described? No, never. And we further believe, that a return of the former ministry, to the exclusion of all other persons, would have no very great good effect. It would, indeed, put a stop to degrading concessions, it would revive confidence in the commercial and monied men, it would restore us to some little degree of consequence abroad; but, in *the hearts of the people*, there, "where we must live, or have no life, the "fountain from which our current runs, "or else dries up;" on that most precious, that vital part of the empire, such a change would, we sincerely believe, be very far from producing an effect commensurate with the perils of our situation. To restore this country to her former greatness, to save her from destruction (for she must be great or she must be nothing), the people must be rouzed from their lethargy, they must be animated, their minds must be filled with high and honourable notions, their danger must be placed fairly before them, and they must be made to resolve, not only on a resistance of that danger, but on a removal of the cause of it. Unless this can be accomplished, the country is doomed to sink, not into poverty, insignificance, and contempt, but into absolute slavery. And this, we think cannot be accomplished without an administration, which, in presenting something *new* as well as great, shall excite new hopes. The present ministers can be looked upon as nothing more, they *are* looked upon as nothing more, than the dregs of the old administration; the mere return, therefore, of that old administration, would only tend to revive party animo-ities, unaccompanied with any one sentiment favourable to the energy of the government or the salvation of the country. A ministry composed of talents, and of great public influence, collected from all the parties that have hitherto existed, taking, as the bond of their union, an inflexible determination to resist the aggrandizement of France, and, as a proof that they themselves are pledged to a real responsibility, bringing the present ministers to a strict account for their conduct; with an administration so formed, so cemented, and so acting, the people would venture their last shilling and their last drop of blood; but, by any change which shall bear the marks of juggle, of selfishness, of mere love of rule, of rank, or of money, they will remain totally unmoved. They will continue obedient and silent, but it will be a cold grudging obedience and a sullen silence.—Next to a ministry, such as we wish to see, an *Opposition* of the same stamp is desirable. The old ground of warfare, between the great and leading men of the country, no longer exists. Though not in place, they are *in parliament*, and there they ought to unite for the purpose of preventing our final destruction. And, why do they not so unite? Why are they *all* silent in their seats, though, out of those seats, every one of them unreservedly declares, that the present measures directly lead to inevitable ruin? Is it that they are all seeking to gratify their own ambition; and, not being able to agree as to the division of the power, is each afraid to stir, lest his movements should favour the views of his rival? Are they actuated by motives like this? Is this the tenure on which Mr. Addington holds his place? Is it thus that they are held in silence and subjection; that they are become the mere automata, the sport, the mockery of a man, by whom, while they look on him with ineffable contempt, they are twirled about on the pivot of their own interests? This were, indeed, a shame, a disgrace, too great to be endured, and we trust that the result will contradict the supposition.

POSTSCRIPT.

We have just heard, that an order has been issued, in France, to prevent Englishmen from going to any of the sea-ports, CALAIS excepted.—This will deprive the Spaniel-like lords of the honour of any longer licking the dust off Buonaparté's shoes.—It may, too, perhaps, mar the fortunes of our female adventurers, who had set their caps at the marauding cut-throat general.

NOTICES.

The Epistle from Capt. Macnamara's *Newfoundland-dog* to Lord Pelham's *Spaniel*, is excellent; but to insert it in the Register would be a departure from our rule.

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ON KER PORTER, AND HIS BATTLE OF LODI.

Mr. Cobbett,—As we seem to be upon the point of another contest with our inveterate foe, it is of some consequence to brave the dispositions which our countrymen bring with them to it. On former occasions, an attachment to our country, and a spirit of proud defiance to the enemy, have been cultivated in all popular ways, as necessary preparatives for times of hardship and struggle. Places of public exhibition, the theatres of every description, (not forgetting our old friends Master Astley and Sadler's Wells) have been eager to celebrate deeds of prowess that have adorned the annals of England in former wars. Music and painting have concurred in the same patriotic purpose; songs and pictures, by recording ancient triumphs of British valour, have stimulated the rising generation to equal exertions in the same race of glory. He who could not be expected to do his country service by his musquet or sword, was anxious to give it the benefit of his pen or his pencil. I have no quarrel with the theatres at present, though I find it a little difficult to forget a certain improved edition of Coriolanus exhibited a few years ago. I am glad to see that John Bull has resumed his station upon the boards; long may he hold it! Painting has done fairly in popular exhibitions of Aboukir and Copenhagen. But I am led to trouble you upon the occasion of one exhibition now open to the Public, which I am rather surprized has not yet received some mark of public reprobation, I mean Mr. Ker Porter's exhibition of Buonaparté's triumphs, at the Lyceum.

Sir, that an English artist should not be able to find employment enough for his talents, if they were ten times as great as any this said Mr. Ker Porter has to boast in the glorious deeds of his own countrymen, will be surprizing enough to those who remember the names of Howe, Duncan, St. Vincent, Nelson, Hood, Smyth, Saumarez, Abercromby, Hutchinson, Harris, and an 100 others, whom fame's hundred trumpets can never sufficiently proclaim to the world. In the name of common decency, and common gratitude, why are the artists of this country to quit the fond themes of British glory? Is it a British feeling that inclines them so to do, at a time when every British interest depends upon the elevation of British spirit? Even to wander to foreign transactions at all, though of nations perfectly neutral or indifferent, seems hardly seasonable at the present moment. We want our talents at present for our own purposes; we can't spare the use of them to strangers at a crisis, when every man must help his country in the way that he can; but for a man to select the enemies of his country as the objects of his decoration, and to exhibit, with all the degrading effect which his powers of art enable him to do, the heart-breaking event of the overthrow of his country's minds united in the same generous struggle for the salvation of Europe, argues surely a very unnatural perversion of mind. What are we to expect next!—The glorious victory of Gemappe, or the proud triumphs of Quiberon Bay? Mr. Ker Porter, I presume, is to lay hold of every scene of disaster that has happened to Great Britain or its friends, in order to plant his laurels as thick as they will stick together upon the brow of his favoured hero. And is a British public to encourage such a corruption of taste! such a defect of feeling! such an abandonment of principle! Who that has the heart of an Englishman, can look at such a picture, but with horror at the piece, and indignation at the artist, who is mean enough to lend, or *(possibly)* to *sell* his talents for such a purpose in the capital of the British Empire?

I know that the apology for all this is the cant that is making its way in the world—"that artists are of no country." In a little time, I fear, his Majesty will have no subjects left—so many classes of us are running a race after Anacharsis Cloots, to be citizens of the world and ambassadors of the human race. Royal philosophers are to lay themselves at the feet of French philosophers—for "*philosophers are of no country!*" British merchants are to stock the naval arsenals of France with stores—for "*merchants are of no country!*" Presidents of Royal Academies are to give for their public toast, "peace amongst the artists though war be-"tween the countries!"—*for artists, it seems, have no country!* I doubt a little whether we are substantially improved by being so many of us thus sublimed into independent gentlemen—independent of our governments, of our civil relations, and our civil duties. The old system bid as fair for social happiness, in which every man, be he what he might, was conceived to be individually embarked in the fortunes of his country; a friend to its friends, and an enemy to its enemies. I am a little of the mind of a very plain gentleman whom I saw at that same exhibition room, before this odious raree-show was publicly announced. On his enquiring what subject engaged the artist's pencil at that time, and being informed, he expressed some concern, that a British artist should be driven to celebrate

French victories over British allies. The Cicerone flippantly replied, *that* "*artists are of no country*," which he answered by quietly remarking, that "*he who was of no country, deserved to be kicked out of every country.*"

MISOCOSMOPOLIS.

REMARKS ON SWENSKA'S LETTER, WITH REGARD TO THE POLITICS OF FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

SIR,—This excellent letter contains many judicious remarks, and shows much sound judgment and extensive political knowledge; but I differ with him in some few particulars, which I beg leave to state, and I flatter myself that he will concur in my opinion when he shall have maturely considered my arguments.—What he says, p. 420, "*That* "*the revolution has in no wise altered the poli-* "*tics of France; it has changed the actors, and* "*they have adopted new measures,*" is most accurately stated, and it is very evident to every vigilant observer; but I differ from him widely, when he asks, "*can Russia and* "*republican France go mutual shares in the* "*trade and government of the Turkish empire?* "*this is by no means likely.*" Now I think this very likely, and not only likely but inevitable, whenever Great Britain shall have been deprived of the last port she holds in the Mediterranean *.

Oczakow is now known to be a place of no importance. It lies several miles from the channel for ships, which is commanded by Kinburn, and that fortress was before the time he mentions in the hands of the Russians, who demolished Oczakow after they got possession of it.

Your excellent correspondent says; "*It* "*is a known fact, that the Consul did propose* "*to the court of Petersburgh to leave Molda-* "*via, Walachia, Besarabia, Bosnia and Ser-* "*via, to the disposition of Russia and Austria,* "*on condition that France might possess Can-* "*dia, Negropont, and other Greek islands in* "*the Archipelago. But Russia would as soon* "*see France in possession of the channel of Con-* "*stantinople and the Crimea, as suffer her to* "*fix her feet on posts that might soon command* "*the communication between the Black and* "*Mediterranean Seas.*"—If Great Britain leave to the fleets of France the maritime empire of the Mediterranean, (which by putting Malta into the hands of the Order she will do,) and, as Swenska justly observes, "*lay open the only vulnerable part of the Rus-* "*sian frontiers,*" Buonaparté may send a fleet, and destroy the rising navy of Russia in the Black Sea, and do so much other mischief to her new establishments, that have cost much labour and immense sums, as will throw her back many years. Would not Russia prefer an accommodation with the Consul,—and secure the success of a project which ever has been "*pursued* (in his own "words) *with more or less energy by all his* "(Peter the First's) *successors; and is of* "*such importance to the Russian empire that it* "*can never be abandoned* *."

The Consul does not wish to quarrel with Russia. This is most evident. If Russia can have no advantage in quarrelling with the Consul; but on the contrary, by an arrangement with him, can accomplish what she has had in view for such a number of years, and which is considered as "*an essen-* "*tial article in the Russian system,*"—it will be most evident that Russia will not quarrel with France.

Some other plans may be proposed by the Consul, such as letting the Emperor of Russia dispose of Turkey in Europe, and the Archipelago as he pleases; setting his brother on the throne of Constantinople, &c. on condition that France might possess Candia, Corfu, and Egypt. Perhaps, Candia might be relinquished. It has very little connexion with the other Greek islands; it never entered into their confederacy, or declared in favour of Russia. France has always, however, cast a longing eye on Candia. In short, there is matter sufficient to negotiate about, and when the two powers were predetermined to come to a good understanding, negotiators, no abler than those of Amiens, may find a plan to conciliate them. Though, perhaps, each may have at the same time views of future encroachment, and future quarrels may arise.

In the meantime, what is the situation into which this devoted country will be placed! What may not the Consul alone, or in conjunction with Russia attempt

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* Respecting the politics of Russia and France, and the miserable situation of the Ottoman Porte, see "Survey of the Turkish Empire." (Cad. and Dav. 1798) which, though it appeared to be exaggerated at the time the book was written, is now found to be strictly accurate, and even mo-

* If the French succeed in Italy, they will change their politics with respect to Turkey.—Had the Empress never before turned her thoughts to the liberating Greece, as an object of glory, she must now do it from motives of self-defence, and an interest she had not before.

The vast increase of power which the French will acquire, particularly in the number of sailors, will enable them to annihilate, at their pleasure, the Russian fleet, and its establishments in the ports of the Black Sea.—All the fair views of prosperity in the southern provinces will vanish, and Russia must depend solely on the pleasure of France for the exportation of its products. Survey of the Turkish Empire, 3d edit. p. 428.

against India! What will become of our trade to the Mediterranean! What a naval power will be created! What is to become of our alliance with Russia! Our commerce with her,—our supplies of naval stores! Russia and France united!!! What is to become of the whole continent of Europe! And will there be one single foreign port open to us!—I see no reason why the Consul should not, if he receive an equivalent, leave the Bosphorus to Russia: his superior navy will always put it in his power to dictate to Russia, and the islands may always be attacked. Neither is the Bosphorus, in the opinion of military and naval officers, capable of impeding the passage of a fleet with a strong and favourable wind.

With respect to the trade of the Black Sea, and other parts alluded to, the Russians and French may perfectly agree; the nature of it admits of no rivalship. On the contrary, it will be mutually advantageous to them. France will take Russian products, and furnish the empire with articles it stands in need of. France will supply Turkey or Greece with its manufactures; Russia has none of the same kind. Russia will supply those parts with what France has not: hemp, iron, butter, caviar, &c. Russia will take their wines, dry fruit, &c. which France does not want. More articles might be enumerated, all in a similar predicament.

I could extend these observations much farther, and draw still more consequences; but the outline of the feature of our situation is all that need be drawn. O Britain, how unlike what thou wast! thy case is desperate—thou wilt die of the *Doctor*.—The necessity of our keeping Malta is evident to all but those who would rather give up twenty Maltas than their places, that we may be able to have a fleet in the Mediterranean to prevent a union of interest and a co-operation between France and Russia *par force*, if we cannot otherwise *.

A firm and unqualified declaration of our resolution to keep Malta, would produce another kind of language from the court of St. Petersburgh than equivocating insinuations, but a contrary conduct will utterly put an end to the existence of every power on the continent, and bring swift destruction on this devoted land. What will it then avail us, if, after that, when Russia and France join frontiers, they quarrel! Before that time the name of Britain may no longer exist.

J. B.

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MALTA.

Sir,—I have read with much pleasure the sentiments of Tyrtæus (Vol. II. p. 838) and others of your Correspondents respecting the retention of Malta. The arguments adduced in favour of that measure are to me conclusive, and I trust they will have their due weight with every well-wisher to his country. May I be permitted, Sir, to communicate, through the medium of your excellent Register, a few additional remarks on the subject of that island.

We are all liable to the prejudice of authority, and when we hear Members of the Senate (and those too men of superior talents and character) making unqualified assertions in that august assembly in questions on which they may naturally be supposed to be well informed, we are apt to give our implicit assent.—You may remember, Sir, that during the discussions of last session, relative to the terms of the treaty, it was maintained, that there seemed no reason why we should *now* more than formerly be particularly desirous of possessing a port in the Mediterranean? Is it possible, Sir, that any one can for a moment view the political map of Europe, without being conscious of the mighty difference operated by the late war? Where is now that extensive continental influence which enabled us to force a neutrality, and which opened to us those ports which are now either possessed by or under the immediate influence of France? Let it be also remembered that we had then no reason to apprehend that system of universal dominion so avowedly pursued by the First Consul, whose colossal strides towards the East can only

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* En donnant à l'isle de Malte, des ports commodes et une situation heureuse, la nature semble l'avoir destinée à être la clef du Levant et l'arbitre de la Méditerranée.———Voyez *Recherches Hist. et Politiques sur Malte*, Paris, chez Cramer. An. VII. page 96.

Quelques vaisseaux qui croiseraient à l'est jusqu'en Sicile, et quelques autres à l'ouest jusqu'en Barbarie, suffiraient pour couper toute communication avec le Levant. Idem. p. 97.

Quelques bâtimens en croisière entre Malte et la Sicile, d'un côté, entre Malte et l'Afrique, de l'autre, empêcheront sans peine les vaisseaux ennemis de franchir cette barrière. Une escadre, stationnée dans les beaux ports de l'isle, commandera les côtes de l'Italie sur la mer Adriatique, où la France possede déjà l'isle importante de *Corfou* [she has now also Elba.] Son influence s'étendra sur l'Archipel: elle pourra donner la loi à *Candie* et aux autres isles Turques. Si elle veut ouvrir une communication avec la *Mer Rouge*, Malte doit être considérée comme l'entrepôt des divers matériaux nécessaires à une telle entreprise. Idem. 98.

La France peut former à Malte des chantiers considérables, terminer le bassin, entrepris par le Grand-Maître Rohan, et en faire un autre. La proximité de l'Albanie, pour le bois de construction, et le bas prix de la main d'œuvre y favorisent la construction, et offrent une bien plus grande économie qu'à Toulon. Idem 102.

be checked by our possessing some advantageous post in the Mediterranean; having then such a post while we retain Malta, a post so arduously and so honourably obtained, shall we, under the influence of fear or false delicacy, tamely resign it to that power whose aim is our utter ruin as a nation.—No, it will be said, we do not resign it to the French Republic, but to the Government of the Order of St. John, under the protection of proper guarantees—I will venture to predict, Sir, that scarcely shall the British troops have reached the channel, before the island is virtually in the possession of France, and no sooner shall a rupture take place than the tri-coloured flag shall once more wave on the towers of La Vallette.—General Maitland, I remember, Sir, ventured to advance, that upon no occasion, not even in time of war, could Malta be considered as of any essential use to Great Britain; alledging, in proof of his assertion, that on the expedition to Egypt the troops destined for that country did not find it necessary to avail themselves of the port of La Vallette. * Had the General been well informed, he would have known that the army under the command of Sir Ralph Abercromby not only touched at Malta, but there remained for the space of three weeks, during which time they were reviewed, and got seasonable supplies of vegetables and other provisions; and I believe, Sir, that it is the general opinion of the army, that had they proceeded directly to Alexandria instead of wasting their time in the Bay of Marmorice, it would have been a most fortunate circumstance, as they would then have found it totally unprepared for resistance.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.

PHILO MELITENSIS.

* See Register, Vol. II. p. 1339.

ON LORD ST. VINCENT, AND THE NAVY.

LETTER THE SECOND.

Sir,—When I addressed you last, in a letter dated the 11th of February, which, from the press of other matter, did not appear in your Register till the 19th of March, (see p. 392), I had very little expectation, and still less a wish, that the truth or falsehood of my opinions and predictions should so soon be brought to the test. So convinced was I that the result of such conduct (as was adopted by the present Admiralty) must be, what nearly six weeks of armament has proved, that I do not think I should have ventured to call the public attention to such weakness, had I conceived the moment to be so critical; but have rest satisfied that it would have so soon betrayed itself, that the Board of Admiralty would, from the consciousness of their own incapacity and unpopularity, have withdrawn themselves; or, should that not have been the case, that the minister's eyes would have been opened, and that he would have seen, what has long been the case, though he appears to be unconscious of it, that the Earl of St. Vincent, and his naval assistants at the Admiralty, instead of adding strength to his government, are, in fact, upheld against the almost universal public opinion, by his support alone. Unfortunately, this moment of conviction has not yet arrived, and so much increased alarm do I feel, every day that the present Admiralty continue in office, that I cannot help addressing you upon the subject; and as far as I can, without risking greater danger to the country than I mean to do good, shew how well founded I unfortunately was in the opinion I gave you in my last, when I said, "But should any unfortunate circumstance arise which may require this country to make any sudden exertion and arm for its defence, then will this system prove most fatal, and the full extent of the evil be found, (alas! too late) and we shall have nothing left but to execrate the names of those persons who, by their arbitrary conduct, violence, and partiality, have deprived this country of her greatest and most glorious defence."

Six weeks have now nearly elapsed since his Majesty's Message was sent to both Houses of Parliament, and we may naturally suppose, that the state of things, which led to that Message being sent, was such, that the ministers, and amongst them, the First Lord of the Admiralty, must have seen, that it was possible such a crisis might arise, and, in consequence, that he would have taken every step that could be taken, (without suspicion or alarm) towards preparation for it; but so far from any step being taken, the bare idea of such an event occurring seems never to have been conceived by him, and the scene of hurry, confusion, contradictory orders, and total want of system, that has been exhibited since the evil took place, has been in proportion to the ignorance, arrogance, and presumption of those who preside at and manage the naval department. To detail, what the state of our naval strength is, at this advanced period of our arming, would, I fear, be mischievous in the extreme, and as it is in the power of every man who is sufficiently interested for his country and for himself to ascertain the fact with little trouble; I feel it unnecessary, and alas it is too notorious. But it perhaps may be of use to try and shew some of the steps that have led us to this deplorable state, as by treading them *rapidly* back, it may be possible to recover somewhat of our former strength and energy. I troubled you so much at length in my last, with the detail of the state to which the present Admiralty had brought the whole *civil* department of the navy, by their violence, partiality, and arbitrary conduct, and by their carrying, to such extremity, all the innovations they found introduced by their immediate predecessors, that I will pass over that subject at present, and will advert only to some of the circumstances in the *military* part of the service which have materially led to the miserable state of weakness which we see just now exhibited.

Before the late war broke out, the noble lord, who then presided at the Admiralty, and whose conduct I had occasion to notice, when speaking of the *civil department* of the navy, as having

shewed such strong predilections to old establishments, shewed also the same predilections when conducting the military part of the service. He found an establishment of guard-ships, (which were ships of the line of battle, kept in a state to be fit for sea at an hour's notice, which cruised and formed squadrons of evolution in the summer, out with reduced compliments of men; that is, with a number of men more than sufficient to navigate them, but not to fight them). These ships were attached to the different ports of Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Chatham: the men that entered for them knew that they had *no* reason to fear being turned over to other ships, that while the peace lasted their situations and that of their families would be comfortable, and that when a war came, they would be employed in the same ships, and with many of the same officers with whom they entered, and in consequence this service became most popular, and the choicest of our seamen took advantage of it, and the moment that the then Admiralty gave printed intimation to the officers commanding, that they might enter more men than their established complement, they found such numbers offer, that without *advertisement* or *bounty*, and without creating any alarm, (as the public was unacquainted with the circumstances till afterwards) above *double* the number of men were procured for the service (and they to a man volunteers) in the space of one month, from the 1st of December, 1792 to 1st of January, 7793, than that procured in nearly five weeks after the commencement of this armament, by *bounty*, *proclamation*, or as *severe a press* as ever was known; and that at a time that the greater part of our trade was at home. The Earl of Chatham found this establishment of guard-ships, on his coming into office, and he approved, continued, and extended it, and felt its good effects when he had occasion to bring forward an *especial* force at a short notice. On this, as well as all other subjects, facts, particularly notorious facts speak best. The number of guard-ships were sixteen; seven at Portsmouth, six at this port (Plymouth) and three at Chatham; besides these, there were frigates, which partook in a degree of the nature of guard-ships from being stationed to particular districts on the coast for three years, to cruise against smugglers in those districts. This service was popular amongst the seamen from the same causes as the guard-ships, as the men were not shifted about, and at the end of their cruise returned to the same port where their families were, and where they were occasionally allowed to go on shore. One the 2d of December, 1792, the Admiralty ordered the ships in the *harbour* at Portsmouth to Spithead; on the 4th they were there; on the 12th they were joined by the ships from this port (Plymouth) who had sailed in consequence of orders of the same date. These ships' complements, as guard-ships, amounted to about 5600 men, all of them prime seamen, most of them fit for petty officers. 4500 more men put them at their full war complement, (which one night's press might have done); but we find that much above 6000 men voluntarily entered before the 1st of January, 1793. For no press took place till February, and even a proclamation offering bounty did not appear in the Gazette till the 11th of December. Thus we see 16 sail of the line produced for service, at a time the vote for seamen was but for 16000 men.

With this instance of the wisdom and policy of such a peace establishment before them, and having the power of recurring to the documents in their office to inform themselves of every step that had been then taken, the present Admiralty felt it derogatory to their superior abilities to tread in the steps of any of their predecessors, and therefore their plan for a peace establishment was to be different from all that went before them, and the very *ground-work* of it was *founded* on a *principle* which the noble lord, I have above alluded to, appeared to have decided in his own mind never to have recourse to except in cases of urgent necessity: namely, turning men over from a ship, officers and shipmates that they had been serving in and with, to ships they knew not, officers who were unacquainted with their merits, (if they had any), and shipmates that were strangers. How revolting this must be to the minds of men I need not labour to prove. The British sailors, who have as much sound sense as any body of men whatever, could judge of the necessity of the case, and therefore were never discontented when that necessity was evident, which, in the course of service, they knew must ever occur. But when they saw the peace establishment of the country avowedly formed on this principle, and that the present Admiralty had decided that guard-ships were no longer to exist, as they afforded a degree of ease and comfort to the seamen that was incompatible with their feelings to permit; and that a great number of frigates were to be commissioned, which were to be kept cruising after God knows what—whose crews, on the breaking out of a war, were to be immediately turned over to ships of the line, under new officers; and in consequence of this turn over, to lose all the advantage of prize-money, which sailors look to obtaining in *frigates* at the commencement of a war, which advantage must fall to the new raised men, who would take their places in the frigates; their disgust to the service, and unwillingness to enter into it, increased to the degree which is so unfortunately evident at this critical moment. Since this spirit of innovation and change first shewed itself at the Admiralty, nearly seven years ago, it has increased most rapidly, and amongst other things, in which the present Board has far outstripped their immediate predecessors, has been in the discouraging all following (as it is called) in the navy; that is, the attachment which junior officers felt to their superiors who had brought them up; of men to officers with whom they had served; conceiving that they make the whole thereby more dependent on the Admiralty; and therefore, few captains, now appointed to fit out ships, are allowed to chuse any of their officers, except they have great interest indeed; though they may have obtained men by their own personal interest and exertion, and not unfrequently by their own money; yet these men are taken from them without the smallest hesitation or consider-

tion: added to this, the coarse and unofficer-like behaviour they meet at the Admiralty, when attending in person, and by letter, when they have occasion to correspond, together with the arbitrary disposition manifested by that Board in the frequency of their courts-martial, ordered on persons of the highest rank and character on the most trivial occasions. For instance, in the cases of Sir William Parker, Lieutenant-General Innes of the marines, and Captain Ferrier, &c. from which practice they have not been deterred by, or evinced the least shame at, the strong censure implied on the prosecutors, which has, in every instance, been marked by singularly strong expression used in the sentences the courts-martial have come to. This and similar conduct has disgusted the *military* part of the service as much as, I conceive, I have before proved the civil part to have been. The consequence is too lamentably evident in the state our home fleet just now is in.—The only chance then that I see for salvation to our naval service, and that it will be in time to save it I will not presume to assert, is in a total change of the Admiralty, and that they may be succeeded by persons who shall unequivocally state and vow that it is their conviction that the present disjointed and palsied state of our navy, both in the military and civil departments, arises from the innovations, changes, and experiments that have been introduced in it for some time past, and that it is their determination to do away and remove all such, beginning with General Bentham's absurd and extravagant establishment, and that every thing shall revert to the state in which they stood in the year 1794. When every man knew what his responsibility was, and what his duty was, and when that noble lord quitted the Admiralty, who had brought our fleet forward with such rapidity and effect on the Spanish and Russian armaments, and in the first year of the late war, as I stated in my former letter, and which you referred to in your very able Summary of Politicks the week before the last. A change of men at the Admiralty, without such a change of measures as I have pointed out, accompanied by a degree of liberality unpractised by the present Board, will, I hesitate not to say, be utterly useless.—Yours's,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

Plymouth, April 10, 1803.

NON RESIDENCE OF THE CLERGY.

A Bill to amend and render more effectual the Laws relating to Spiritual Persons holding of Farms, and for enforcing the Residence of Spiritual Persons on their Benefices. [As amended by the Committee.]

WHEREAS many of the provisions of an Act, made in the 21st year of the reign of his Majesty King Henry the 8th, intituled, "*Spiritual Persons "abridged from having Pluralities of Livings, and from "taking of Farms, &c.*" and other the laws now in force relating to spiritual persons residing on their benefices, have been found inconvenient; and it is expedient that certain of the provisions of the said Act should be repealed, and that other provisions should be made in lieu thereof; and that the said Act and laws aforesaid should be amended, and more effectual provisions made for enforcing the residence of spiritual persons on their benefices, and protecting spiritual persons from vexatious prosecutions;—*May it therefore please your Majesty*, —I. THAT it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this Act, every spiritual person who shall before the passing of this Act have incurred any pecuniary penalty or penalties, or any forfeiture or forfeitures under the said recited Act, and against whom no action, suit, bill, plaint, or information shall have been brought in respect thereof under the said Act, shall be and is hereby indemnified, freed, and discharged from the same, any thing in the said recited Act to the contrary thereof notwithstanding; and all contracts, agreements, and leases, made by words or otherwise before the passing of this Act, by any spiritual person, either by himself or any other to or for his use, which if made after this Act would, according to the provisions thereof, be good and valid, shall notwithstanding the said recited Act or any Act or law or laws to the contrary, be and be deemed to be as good and valid in the law to all intents and purposes as if the same had been made after the passing of this Act.—II. AND *be it further enacted*, that immediately from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for any person or persons against whom any original suit, writ, action, bill, plaint, or information shall have been sued out, commenced, or prosecuted, before the passing of this Act, for any pecuniary penalty or penalties, or any forfeiture or forfeitures incurred or alledged to be under the said recited Act, to apply to the court in which such original writ, suit, action, bill, plaint, or information shall have been sued out, commenced, or prosecuted, if such court shall be sitting, or to any judge of any such court when not sitting, for an order that such writ, suit, action, bill, plaint, or information shall be discontinued, upon payment of the sum of ten pounds, in every case where a verdict shall be obtained, together with the costs; and where no verdict shall have been obtained, upon payment of the costs incurred up to the time of such application being made, all such costs to be taxed as between attorney and client, according to the practice of such court, and every such court or judge is hereby authorized and required upon such application, to make such order as aforesaid; and upon the making such order, and payment of such costs as aforesaid, such writ, suit, action, bill, plaint, or information, shall be forthwith discontinued, and in every case until such application shall be made as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the plaintiff or plaintiffs in any such original writ, suit, action, bill, plaint, or information, to proceed therein as if this Act, or an Act passed in the 41st of his present Majesty, intituled, "*An Act to "stay until the 25th day of March*, 1802. *proceedings in "actions under the statute of King Henry the 8th for "abridging Spiritual Persons from having Pluralities of "Livings, and from taking of Ferms*," had not been passed; any thing in this Act or the said last recited Act to the contrary thereof notwithstanding. —III. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for any spiritual person to take to farm to himself, or to any person or persons to his use, by lease, grant, words, or otherwise, for term of life, for term of years, or at will, any messuage, mansion, or dwelling house, with or without orchards, gardens, and other appurtenances, although not in any city,

borough, or town, any thing in the said recited Act or any other Act to the contrary thereof notwithstanding; and it shall also be lawful for any spiritual person having or holding any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, not having any sufficient or convenient glebe or demesne lands annexed to or in right of or by reason of his benefice or cure, or for any stipendiary curate, with the consent or approbation of the bishop of the diocese signified in writing, to take to ferm to himself or to any person or persons to his use, any farm or farms, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, that may under all the circumstances appear to such bishop proper to be taken, held or occupied by any such spiritual person, for the better support and maintenance of himself or family, without being subject or liable to any pains, penalties, or forfeitures under the said first recited Act or any other Act by reason thereof, any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding: provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize any non-residence of any such spiritual person as aforesaid.—IV. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for any spiritual person or persons, by himself or themselves or any other to his or their use, to have, hold, use, or occupy, in ferm or otherwise, any manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, demised, leased, or granted, or in anyway belonging to such spiritual person or persons, as the property or estate of such spiritual person or persons; or to take, purchase, receive, or hold, as the property and estate of such spiritual person, any lease or leases, for life or lives, or for term or terms of years absolute or determinable on any life or lives, or to take any annual rent or other annual advantage or profit by occasion of any lease or ferm of any manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, the property or estate of any such spiritual person or persons belonging to him or them either in his or their own right, or in the right of any other person or persons, or in right or by reason of his or their having or holding any spiritual dignity or benefice, or so taken, purchased, received, or held as aforesaid, as the property or estate of such spiritual person, without being subject to any pains, penalties, or forfeitures whatever under the said first recited Act or any other Act, any thing therein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding: provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize any spiritual person, having or holding any benefice, parsonage, vicarage, donation, or perpetual curacy, or serving a stipendiary curacy, to take, receive, or hold any such manors, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, after the passing of this Act, for the purpose of occupying or to occupy the same, for the cultivation thereof, or procuring profit therefrom, by himself or any bailiff or bailiffs, or servant or servants for his use, unless by the consent or approbation of the bishop as aforesaid, for such purposes as aforesaid.—V. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for any spiritual person, by himself or by any other for him or to his use, to bargain, and buy to sell again for any lucre, gain, or profit, any manner of cattle that may be necessary, proper, or convenient to be bought, sold, kept, or maintained by such spiritual person, or any other person for him or to his use, for the occupation, manuring, improving, pasturage, or profit of any farms, lands, tenements, or hereditaments that may under and by virtue of any law or laws now in force, or under any of the provisions of this Act, be lawfully held and occupied, possessed or enjoyed by such spiritual person, or any other for him or to his use, without being subject to any pains, penalties, or forfeitures by reason thereof, under the said first recited Act or any other Act, or any thing therein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding: provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize any such spiritual person to buy or sell any cattle as aforesaid, in person, in any market, fair, or place of public sale.—VI. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for any spiritual person having or holding any vicarage or perpetual cure, or for the stipendiary curate thereof, to occupy, by himself or by any other to his use in ferm, or the lease or grant of any person or persons, the impropriate parsonage, rectory, or vicarage, or any part thereof, of the parish of which such spiritual person shall be the vicar, or perpetual curate or stipendiary curate, or any part or parts thereof, or to take any profit or rent out of any such farm, without being subject to any pains, penalties, or forfeitures by means thereof, under the said first recited Act, any thing therein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.—VII. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act no lease or leases of any glebe or demesne lands, or of any tythes belonging to any spiritual person as annexed to or in right of any spiritual dignity or benefice, or donative or perpetual curacy, and leased or to be leased to any person or persons whomsoever by such spiritual person, shall be vacated or made void, or be deemed or construed to be void, nor shall the incumbent for the same forfeit any profit of his said dignity, benefice, donative, or perpetual curacy, by reason of the non-residence of any such spiritual person, in any case where such spiritual person shall be exempt from any pecuniary penalties on account of such non-residence, under any of the provisions of the said first recited Act, or of any other Act, or this Act; any thing in an Act passed in the 13th year of the reign of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth, intituled "An Act touching Leases of Benefices and "other Ecclesiastical Livings with Cure," or any other Act or Acts, contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.—VIII. PROVIDED *always, and be it further enacted*, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend, to deprive any spiritual person of any privilege, indemnity, or permission, as to the taking, having, or holding any ferms or lands to which any such spiritual person was or would be entitled unto, under any of the provisions of the said recited Act of his late Majesty King Henry the 8th.—IX. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act, so much of the said first recited Act as imposes the penalty of ten pounds, in the said Act mentioned, on any spiritual person therein described, who shall not keep residence on one of his dignities, prebends, or benefices, but absent himself wilfully by the space of one month together, or by the space of two months to be accounted at several times in any one year, shall be and the same is hereby repealed; and that from and after the passing of this Act, every spiritual person being beneficed with any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or any perpetual curacy, who shall without sufficient cause, as in the said first recited Act, or under an Act passed in the 25th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, intituled, "An Act that "every Judge of the High Courts may have One

"Chaplain beneficed with Cure," or of another Act passed in the 28th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, intituled, "The Bill for Non-resi-"dence of Spiritual Men and their Benefices," or of another Act passed in the 33d year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, intituled, "An Act for "the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and "others to have Chaplains," is specified, or such other sufficient cause as would exempt such spiritual person from any of the pains, penalties, and forfeitures under the said recited Acts, for any non-residence, and who shall not have any such licence as is in this Act mentioned for that purpose, wilfully absent himself for the space of three months together, or to be accounted at several times in any one year, and make his residence and abiding at any other place or places by such time, shall when such absence shall exceed such period as aforesaid, and not exceed six months, forfeit and pay one-fourth of the annual value (deducting therefrom all actual outgoings except any stipend paid to any curate) of the parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy from which he shall so absent himself as aforesaid, and when such absence shall exceed six months and not exceed eight months, one-third of such annual value; and when such absence shall exceed eight months, one-half of such annual value; and when such absence shall have been for the whole of the year, two-thirds of such annual value; to be recovered by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster, or the Courts of Great Sessions in Wales, wherein no essoign, privilege, protection, or wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed; and the whole of every such penalty or forfeiture shall go and be paid to the person or persons who shall inform and sue for the same, together with such costs of suit as shall be allowed according to the practice of the court in which such action shall be brought.—X. PROVIDED ALSO, *and be it further enacted*, that no spiritual person being beneficed with any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, who shall have made his residence and abided at his said benefice for the space of one whole year, without wilful absence therefrom for any longer time than three months together, or in the whole at several times, shall be liable to any of the pains, penalties, or forfeitures in this Act or the said recited Act contained, for any previous non-residence.—XI. AND *be it further enacted*, that no spiritual person having or holding any office, which under any of the provisions of the said first-recited Act, or of an Act passed in the 25th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, intituled, "An Act that every Judge of the High Courts "may have one Chaplain beneficed with Cure," or of another Act passed in the 28th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, intituled, "The Bill "for Non-residence of Spiritual Men and their "Benefices," or of another Act, passed in the 33d year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, intituled, "An Act for the Chancellor of the Duchy of "Lancaster and others to have Chaplains," would exempt such spiritual persons from residence or from the penalties and forfeitures in the said Act contained for non-residence, or actually serving as a chaplain of the House of Commons, or as clerk of his Majesty's closet, or as a deputy clerk thereof, during the time of his attendance, or as a chaplain general of his Majesty's forces, or brigade chaplain on foreign service, or chaplain on board any of his Majesty's ships, or in any of his Majesty's garrisons, or chaplain of his Majesty's corps of artillery, doing duty therewith, or as chaplain in any British factory, or in the household of any British ambassador or public minister residing abroad, or as principal surrogate or official in any ecclesiastical court of any diocese, or as prebendary or canon, minor canon, or vicar choral, or priest vicar, or other public officer, in any cathedral or collegiate church, during the times for which they may be required by the canons or local statutes thereof to reside at such cathedral or collegiate church, and actually reside and perform duty at the same, or as a preacher or reader in any of the inns of court or at the rolls, or as bursar, dean, vice president or public tutor, or other public officer, in any college or hall in either of the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge, during the period for which he may respectively be required by reason of any such office to perform the duties of any such office, and actually performs the duties of the same, or as public librarian or public registrar, or proctor, or public orator or other public officer, in either of the said universities, during the period for which he may respectively be required by reason thereof to perform the duties of any such office, and actually performs the duties of the same, or as librarian at the British Museum or of Sion College, or as fellow of any college in either of the Universities, during the time for which he may be required to reside by any charter or statute, and actually resides therein, or as warden or provost of Eton or Winchester College, or fellow or schoolmaster in the same, or as schoolmaster in Westminster School, or as professor of Gresham College during the terms in which he may be required to read lectures therein, and shall actually read lectures in the same; nor any person holding a dignity, donative, or perpetual cure, in conjunction with a benefice, or donative or perpetual cure, during the times that he is residing upon either the dignity, benefice, or donative, or the perpetual cure, or one of them, shall be liable to any of the pains, penalties, or forfeitures in the said first recited Act or this Act contained, for or on account of any non-residence on any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, any thing in the said Act or this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.—XII. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act no person or persons mentioned in an Act, passed in the 28th year of the reign of King Henry the 8th, intituled, "An Act "for Non-residence of Spiritual Men on their "Benefices," and entitled under the provisions of the said Act, to the privilege and liberty of non-residence until after and above the age of forty years, shall be by reason of any of the provisions of the said Act, entitled to enjoy the privilege and liberty of non-residence after or above the age of twenty-six years; any thing in the said Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.—XIII. AND *be it further enacted*, that no penalty and costs incurred by reason of any non-residence shall be levied by execution against the body of any spiritual person, who shall continue to hold any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual cure, out of the profits of which, the same can be levied by sequestration. XIV. AND *be it further enacted*, that from and after the passing of this Act it shall be lawful for the several bishops respectively, in that part of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called England, upon application made for that purpose by petition in writing, or otherwise, by any spiritual person having or holding any parsonage or vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, locally situated within their respective dioceses, upon such proofs as to any facts stated in any such petition as any

such bishop may think necessary, or if he shall require it, by affidavit made before any surrogate or master extraordinary in chancery (which oath any surrogate or master extraordinary in chancery is hereby authorized and required to administer, of such spiritual persons, in case the same shall be required by the Bishop to whom any such petition is presented, or application made under this Act) to grant in every case where on due consideration of all the circumstances stated in any such application and verified to the satisfaction of the bishop as aforesaid, such bishop shall in his discretion think it fit to grant the same, a license in writing under his hand, in such cases as are hereinafter enumerated, to such persons in relation to the residence or non-residence of such spiritual persons on their respective benefices, for the purpose of exempting such persons from any pecuniary penalties or forfeitures; under and subject nevertheless to the regulations, provisions, and restrictions in this Act contained.—XV. AND *be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for any bishop to grant licenses to any spiritual persons having any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy within his diocese, to reside out of the propet house of residence, or out of the parish, as the case may appear to such bishop to require, if upon the consideration of all the circumstances of any such case, such bishop shall in his discretion think the same fit and proper, in the several cases hereinafter-mentioned (that is to say) to any spiritual person who shall be prevented from residing in the proper house of residence, or in the parish, by actual illness or infirmity of body of himself, or wife or child making part of and residing with him as part of his family; and also to any spiritual person having or holding any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, wherein there shall be no house of residence, or where the house of residence shall be unfit for the residence of such ecclesiastical person, such unfitness not being occasioned by any negligence, default, or other misconduct of such ecclesiastical person; and also to any spiritual person having or holding any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, and having or possessing or occupying in the parish of such parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual cure, any mansion or messuage belonging to himself or any relative, to reside in such mansion or messuage, such spiritual person keeping the house of residence in good, sufficient, and tenantable repair and condition, to the satisfaction of the bishop; and also for any spiritual person having or holding any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy of small value, and serving as a stipendiary curate elsewhere, with the license of the bishop of his diocese, and providing for the serving of such his parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, to the satisfaction of the bishop of his diocese; and also to any master or usher of any endowed school duly licensed by the bishop, and actually employed in teaching therein; and to any master or preacher of hospitals or incorporated charitable foundation, during the period for which he may be required to reside by any charter or statute of any such hospital or incorporated charitable foundation, or by any other lawful authority in the same; or to any person holding any endowed lectureship, or endowed chapelry, or to the trustees of Lord Crewe's charity, during the times of their personal attendance on the duties of their office: Provided always, That for any such license, the party obtaining the same shall not pay more to the secretary or officer of the bishop than the sum of ten shillings, exclusive of any such stamp as may be required by law: Provided always, that if any spiritual person applying to any bishop for any such license, shall think himself aggrieved by the refusal thereof, it shall be lawful for such spiritual person to appeal to the archbishop of the province, who shall forthwith either by himself or some commissioner or commissioners appointed from among the bishops of his province, under his hand, make or cause to be made enquiry into the same, and to confirm such refusal, or grant a license under this Act, as shall seem just and proper; provided nevertheless, that the party appealing, shall give security to the bishop for the payment of such reasonable expenses occasioned by the appeal, as the archbishop or his commissioner or commissioners shall award.—XVI. AND *be it further enacted*, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for any such bishop as aforesaid, in any cases not herein before enumerated, in which under all the circumstances of any such case such bishop shall think it expedient to grant to any such spiritual person a license to reside out of the proper house of residence, or out of the parish, as the case may appear to such bishop to require: Provided always, That in every such case the nature and special circumstances thereof, and the reasons that have induced such bishop to grant such license as aforesaid, shall be transmitted to the Archbishop of the province to which such bishop shall belong, who shall forthwith by himself or by some commissioner or commissioners appointed for that purpose from among the bishops of such province, by writing under his hand, which commissioner or commissioners is and are thereupon authorized to take upon himself or themselves the execution of the said commission, examine into such case, and make such enquiries as to any particulars relating thereto as such archbishop or commissioner or commissioners so appointed as aforesaid may think necessary, and shall thereupon allow or disallow such license, in the whole or in part, or make any alteration therein as to the period for which the same may have been granted, or otherwise, as to such archbishop or commissioner or commissioners shall seem fit; and no such license shall be good, valid, or effectual under this Act, for any purpose whatever, unless it shall have been so allowed and approved by such archbishop or commissioner or commissioners on his behalf; such allowance thereof being signified by the signing thereof by such archbishop; provided always, that it shall not be necessary in such license to specify the cause of granting thereof; provided also, that no license granted by any bishop or archbishop under this Act shall be made void by the death or removal of the bishop or archbishop granting thereof, but the same not having been revoked shall be and remain good and valid notwithstanding any such death or removal, unless the same shall be revoked by the next or any succeeding bishop or archbishop; provided also, that any spiritual person may appeal against any such revocation by the bishop, in like manner as is hereinbefore directed in case of any refusal of any license: Provided also, that the respective archbishops may in their respective dioceses of which they are bishops, grant licenses under the provisions and regulations in this act contained, in all cases in which any licenses may be granted by any bishop under this Act, either by his own authority or with the allowance and approval of the archbishop as aforesaid; provided also, that it shall be lawful for any such archbishop to order

and direct such reasonable fees and charges to be paid by any such spiritual person appealing as aforesaid in respect of any such proceedings as aforesaid, as he shall in his discretion think fit: Provided always, that in every case when any costs and charges directed by such archbishop or bishop as aforesaid, shall remain unpaid for the period of twenty-one days after demand thereof left at the usual or last place of abode of the person liable to the payment, it shall be lawful for such bishop or archbishop respectively to cause the same to be recovered by sequestration of the profits of the parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy of such spiritual person as aforesaid, and which sequestration such archbishop or bishop are respectively hereby empowered to issue.—XVII. PROVIDED *always, and be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for any bishop or archbishop who shall have granted any such license as aforesaid, or any successor of any such bishop or archbishop, to revoke any such license in any case in which it may appear to him proper and expedient to revoke the same: Provided also, that no license granted under this Act shall continue in force for more than two years from the granting thereof.—XVIII. AND *be it further enacted*, That every such bishop to whom any such petition shall be presented, and who shall grant or revoke any license founded thereon, shall and he is hereby required to cause a copy of such license or revocation to be filed in the registry of the diocese within which such parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, in respect whereof any such license shall be granted or revocation made, shall be locally situate, with the register of such diocese; and an alphabetical list of such licenses and revocations shall be made out by such register, and entered in a book, and kept for the inspection of all persons upon payment of the sum of two shillings, and no more; and a copy of every such license and revocation shall be delivered to the churchwardens of the parish within one month after the grant of such license or revocation thereof; and a copy of the same shall likewise be publickly read at the visitation of the archdeacon of the archdeaconry within which the parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, in respect whereof the license shall have been granted or revocation made, shall be locally situate, immediately next succeeding the granting or revocation thereof.—XIX. PROVIDED *also, and be it further enacted*, That every archbishop, who shall confirm in manner directed by this act any license or licenses in any case or cases not enumerated in this Act, or who shall grant any such license in his own diocese, shall annually on or before the thirtieth day of January in each year, transmit to his Majesty's privy council a list of all such licenses so confirmed or granted respectively as aforesaid, in the year ending on the last day of December preceding such thirtieth day of January, and shall in every such list specify the reasons transmitted to him by the bishops of the several dioceses for granting the said licenses, and which have induced him to confirm the same, and also the reasons which have induced him to grant any such license as aforesaid within his own diocese; and it shall be lawful for his Majesty's privy council, by any order made for that purpose, to revoke and annul any such license, and his Majesty's privy council shall in such case transmit or cause to be transmitted to the archbishop, who shall have confirmed or granted such license, the order for the revocation or annulling thereof, who shall thereupon cause a copy of every such order made in relation to any license confirmed by him as aforementioned, to be transmitted to the bishop of the diocese in which such license shall have been granted, who shall thereupon cause the copy of the said order to be filed in the registry of such diocese, and a copy likewise to be delivered to the churchwardens in manner herein before directed as to licenses granted and revocations made by any such archbishop or bishop under this act; and every such archbishop shall cause a copy of every such order made in relation to any such license as aforesaid granted by him in his own diocese, to be in like manner filed in the registry of his diocese, and a copy also to be delivered to the churchwarden of the parish to which such license shall relate, in manner before mentioned.—XX. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be lawful for any spiritual person to whom any such license shall be granted, and against whom any action shall hereafter during the continuance of this act be brought for any penalty or forfeiture under the said recited act, by reason of any non-residence, or any matter or thing relating thereto, to plead such license in bar of any such action; and if the plaintiff in such suit or action shall be nonsuit, or shall discontinue any such suit or action after any plea of license shall have been pleaded thereto under this act, then and in such case the defendant in such suit or action shall have full costs of suit; and if in any such suit or action a verdict shall be given for the defendant, the defendant shall have treble costs, and have the like remedy for the same as any defendant hath in other cases to recover costs by law.—XXI. AND *be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to exempt any person or persons from any canonical or ecclesiastical censures, or affect any proceedings that shall hereafter be instituted in any ecclesiastical court, in order to cause the same to be inflicted in relation to the non-residence of any spiritual person having or holding any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, not being duly licensed according to the provisions of this act to be absent therefrom, nor having any other lawful cause of absence: Provided always, that from and after the passing of this act, no such censures by reason of non-residence not exceeding three months shall be in force, nor shall any proceeding be admitted in any ecclesiastical court against any such spiritual person for such non-residence not exceeding three months, at the suit of any person or persons other than the bishop or archdeacon only of the diocese and archdeaconry within which such parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, in respect whereof such non-residence shall have taken place, shall be locally situated; any thing in any law or laws, or ecclesiastical canon or canons, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.—XXII. AND *be it further enacted*, That in every case in which it shall appear to any such bishop as aforesaid, that any spiritual person having or holding any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, and not being licensed according to this act to be absent therefrom, nor having any other lawful cause of absence from the same, does not sufficiently reside on such parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, it shall be lawful for such bishop to issue or cause to be issued a monition to such spiritual person, forthwith to proceed to and reside thereon, and perform the duties thereof, and to make a return to such monition within a certain number of days after the issuing thereof; so as that in every such case there shall

be thirty days between the time of delivering such monition to such spiritual person, or leaving the same at his then usual place of abode, or last place of abode, if not there to be found, and with the officiating minister or one of the churchwardens, and the time specified in such monition for the return thereof; and every such monition shall immediately on the issuing thereof be filed in the registry, and open for inspection on the payment of two shillings and no more; and the spiritual person to whom any such monition shall be sent under this act, shall within the time specified for that purpose make a return thereto; and it shall be lawful for the bishop to whom any such return shall be made to require such return, or any facts contained therein, to be verified by the oath of such spiritual person, or others, to be taken before some Surrogate or Master Extraordinary in Chancery, which oath any such Surrogate or Master Extraordinary in Chancery is hereby authorized and required to administer, on application being made for that purpose; and in every case where no such return shall be made, or where such return shall not state such reasons as shall be deemed satisfactory by such bishop for the non-residence of the spiritual person to whom such monition shall have been sent as aforesaid, or where the same or any of the facts contained therein shall not be so verified upon oath as aforesaid, when the same shall have been required; then and in such case it shall be lawful for such bishop to issue an order in writing under his hand and seal, to require such person to proceed to and reside as aforesaid, within thirty days after such order in writing, or a copy thereof shall have been delivered or left in like manner as is hereinbefore required as to monitions; and in case of non-compliance it shall be lawful for such bishop to sequester the profits of such parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy of such spiritual person as aforesaid, until such monition shall be complied with, or such sufficient reasons for non-residence stated and proved as aforesaid, and to direct any order to be made for that purpose under his hand, the application of such profits, after deducting the necessary expenses of serving the cure, either in the whole or in such proportion as he shall think fit, in the first place, to the payment of such reasonable expenses as shall have been incurred in relation to such monition and sequestration, and in the next place towards the augmentation or improvement of any such parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, or the house of residence thereof, or any of the buildings and appurtenances thereof, or towards the improvement of any of the glebe or demesne lands thereof, or may order and direct the same, or any portion thereof, to be paid to the governors of the bounty of Queen Anne for the augmentation of the maintenance of the poor clergy, to be applied for the purpose of such augmentation as such bishop shall in his discretion under all the circumstances think fit and expedient; and it shall also be lawful for any such bishop to remit any such spiritual person any part or proportion of such sequestered profits, or cause the same or any part thereof that shall have been paid or directed to be paid to such governors of Queen Anne's bounty to be repaid to such spiritual person, which repayment the said governors are hereby authorized and required upon an order under the hand of any such bishop to make out of any money then in their hands, or if no money shall then be in their hands, out of the next money that shall come to their hands, in any case in which by reason of the subsequent obedience of any such spiritual person to any such monition, or the stating and proving such sufficient reasons as aforesaid, such bishop shall think the same proper: Provided always, that when any such spiritual person shall think himself aggrieved by reason of any such sequestration, it shall be lawful for any such spiritual person, within fifteen days after the making any order for any such sequestration as aforesaid, and upon notice thereof, the bishop to appeal to the archbishop of the province to which such bishop shall belong, who shall forthwith either by himself, or some commissioner or commissioners appointed from among the bishops of his province for that purpose under his hand and seal, make or cause to be made due enquiry into the same, and make such order therein or relating thereto, or to the profits that shall be so sequestered as aforesaid, for the return to such spiritual person of the same or any part thereof, or otherwise, as shall under all the circumstances of the case appear to such archbishop or his commissioner or commissioners to be just and proper: Provided always, that the party so appealing shall give security to the bishop for the payment of such reasonable expenses occasioned by the appeal as the archbishop or his commissioner or commissioners shall award: Provided also, that no such order for any sequestration shall be put in force during such appeal as aforesaid, and until the same is determined.—XXIII. PROVIDED *also, and be it further enacted*, That every spiritual person to whom any such monition or order in writing shall be sent as aforesaid under this act, who shall be at the time of the issuing thereof absent from residence in his parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, contrary to the provisions of the said first recited act and this act, but who shall in obedience to such monition or order forthwith return to due residence, and the profits of whose parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, shall by reason of such return not be sequestered, shall nevertheless pay all costs, charges, and expenses incurred by reason of the issuing and serving such monition or order; to be levied as any cost may be levied on any spiritual person by any archbishop or bishop under any of the provisions of this act.—XXIV. AND *be it further enacted*, That all contracts or agreements made after the passing of this act, for the letting of houses of residence belonging to any parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, to which any spiritual person shall be required by order of the bishop as aforesaid, to proceed and reside therein, shall be null and void; and any person continuing to hold the same after the day on which the said spiritual person shall be directed by the said order to reside therein, shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds for every day he shall continue to hold the same, to be recovered and applied in like manner as the penalties for non-residence, are directed to be recovered and applied by the provisions of this act.—XXV. AND *be it further enacted*, That where any such house of residence is occupied under a contract or agreement made before the passing of this act, the same may be held and occupied without subjecting the party holding and occupying the same to any penalty; and sequestration shall not issue for disobedience to the order of the bishop, for three calendar months after the day on which possession ought to be taken by the spiritual person, in obedience to the order of the bishop, at the expiration of which time the sequestration shall issue; and the party continuing to hold the house of resi-

dence shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds for every day he shall hold the same, after the expiration of the said three months; the said penalties to be recovered and applied in like manner as the penalties for non-residence are directed to be recovered and applied by the provisions of this act.—XXVI. AND *be it further enacted*, That if any clerk shall continue under such sequestration for non-residence for the space of three years, the parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual cure, in relation whereto the said non-residence shall have been committed, shall become *ipso facto* void; and the patron shall present or nominate another clerk thereto, as if the same had been avoided by the natural death or resignation of the party.—XXVII. PROVIDED *always, and be it further enacted*, That where any action, suit, bill, plaint, or information shall have been commenced or brought against any spiritual person to whom any monition shall be sent as aforesaid before the issuing thereof, for any penalty or forfeiture incurred by reason of the non-residence of any such spiritual person before the issuing of such monition, then and in such case the bishop sending such monition as aforesaid, shall upon notice of such action or suit, cause to be retained the profits or so much of the profits of the parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy, in respect whereof such action or suit shall be brought and monition issued as aforesaid, and which may under this act be sequestered as aforesaid, as will be sufficient to satisfy any penalty or penalties for which any such action or suit shall be brought, together with such costs as the plaintiff or plaintiffs therein may be entitled to, if any; and shall if a verdict shall be given for the plaintiff or plaintiffs in such action, and final judgment obtained therein, after deducting all the charges which shall have been occasioned by the said sequestration to the bishop or any person or persons who shall have acted therein under his authority, pay or cause to be paid to such plaintiff or plaintiffs the sum or sums of money that shall be recovered in any such action or suit to the plaintiff or plaintiffs therein: Provided always, that if at the time of filing any such monition as aforesaid, no action for any such penalty or forfeiture shall have been already commenced against any such spiritual person, then and in such case no such action, suit, bill, plaint, or information shall be afterwards brought for any penalty or forfeiture incurred by reason of any non-residence of such spiritual person before the issuing of such monition, or during any proceedings that may be had under such monition; and if any such action or suit shall be so commenced, the defendant therein may plead in bar thereof, that such a monition as aforesaid has issued in respect of the same parsonage, vicarage, donative, or perpetual curacy.—XXVIII. AND *be it further enacted*, That from and after the passing of this act, no oath shall be required of or taken by any vicar, in relation to residence on his vicarage; any law, custom, constitution, or usage, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.—XXIX. AND *be it further enacted*, That from and after the passing of this act all and every the clauses, provisions, penalties, and forfeitures, in the said first recited act and this act contained, in relation to residence on benefices, or to any other matters and things relating thereto, shall extend and be deemed and construed to extend to all parsonages with cure, vicarages, donatives, perpetual curacies, and all parochial chapelries, exempt as well as not exempt, and all peculiars, as fully and amply to all intents and purposes as if the same had been and were in the said first recited act or were in this act particularly mentioned and specified; any thing in any act or acts, law or laws, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.—XXX. AND *be it further enacted*, That every archbishop, bishop, and archdeacon, within the limits of whose province, diocese, or jurisdiction respectively any such parsonage with cure, vicarage, donative, perpetual curacy, or parochial chapelry, exempt as well as not exempt, or peculiar, shall be locally situate, or where any such parsonage, vicarage, donative, perpetual curacy, or parochial chapelry, exempt as well as not exempt, or peculiar, shall be within the limits of more than one province, diocese, or jurisdiction aforesaid, or shall be situate between any two or more provinces, dioceses, or jurisdictions, then the archbishop or bishop to whose province or diocese the parish church, such parsonage, vicarage, donative, perpetual curacy, or parochial chapelry, exempt as well as not exempt, or peculiar, shall be nearest in local situation, shall have, use, and exercise all the powers, authorities, and jurisdictions, necessary for the full execution of all the provisions of this act, and for enforcing the same, as fully and amply in every respect as if such parsonages, vicarages, donatives, perpetual curacies, or parochial chapelries, exempt as well as not exempt, or peculiar, were *bonâ fide* subject in every respect to such jurisdiction, and as if the same had been and were specified in all the clauses of this act; any thing in any act or acts, law or laws, usage or usages, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding: Provided that the peculiars belonging to any archbishopric or bishopric, though locally situated in another diocese, shall continue subject to the archbishop or bishop to whom they belong, as well for the purposes of this act, as for all other purposes of ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the law whatsoever.—XXXI. PROVIDED *always, and be it further enacted*, That nothing in this act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to alter or effect his Majesty's royal prerogative in the granting of dispensations for non-residence upon benefices, as the same now exists by law.

GOOD INTENTIONS!

A Poem.—Canto I.

ARGUMENT.

Happy that nation's lot, I ween,
(As Britain's Sons can tell)
Whose Rulers very *little mean*,
But *mean* that *little* well.

CONTENTS.—Folly of the system of politics pursued in this country since the revolution, up to the end of the last administration —Character of King William; Dutch Prejudices; Hook Nose; fond of standing armies and continental politics; liberties of Europe a mere pretext to shed the blood and spend the money of his subjects —Censure on Lord Somers and Duke of Marlborough.—Campaigns of the latter "extended, bloody, and expensive."—Peace of Utrecht commended, except for the idle provisions to prevent the cession of Louisiana to France.—That provision happily abolished by the treaty of Amiens.—Apostrophe to that treaty.—Episode on the separate con-

vention signed the same day between France and Holland.—Indecency of the Dutch Minister in laughing out so loud in the corner of the room while this transaction was going on.—Consolations attendant on being laughed at exemplified in the situation of the present Ministry—Insular system of politics recommended.—Great Britain an island, and why?—Ireland ditto.—Two islands do not make one continent; wherefore continental connexions to be avoided.—Protection of France to be ensured, particularly to THE FAMILY.—Character of the present Minister contrasted with the noisy and turbulent merits of his predecessor.—Mr. A. guileless and candid, with excellent intentions.—Mr. A. no conjuror; not capable of setting the Thames on fire; not likely to have invented gunpowder, if that destructive invention had remained undiscovered to his time.—Mr. A. guardian of British capital, &c. compared with the Goose of the capitol at Rome.—Preference decidedly given to Mr. A.

We shall for the present confine our extracts to the latter part of the Canto, beginning with the beautiful tirade against *Continental Connexions*, from verse 319.

O! hapless age! when fierce discussions,
With turban'd Turks, or fur-clad Russians!
Sprung from Connexions Continental,
(To Britain highly detrimental—
So deem'd by some wise heads in Yorkshire, (1)
And lads who clean our knives and forks here,) (2)
And leading oft to wounds and slaughter,
Still kept this island in hot water.
—In water hot! when, had she known
To trust no waters but her own
(The Ocean then, as now, surrounding
Her rocky coasts, and all sides bounding),
Britain, thrice blest! had seen, perhaps,
No world beyond her—but in maps!
Hail, happier age! hail just cosmography!
Hail doctrines of a sound geography,
Which teach, when seas encircle dry land,
That all within them forms an island. (3)
Safe in this truth (which doubt we dare not),
Let Europe sink or swim we care not.
Reckless alike of friends and foes,
We taste (blest nation!) sweet repose.—
Save when the guardians of our rest,
From time to time, in fear or jest,
Rouse us, as with a watchman's rattle,
With cries of fire, or shouts of battle;
And when we start, and ask the matter
That breaks our sleep with such a clatter,
Bid us, with simpering smile, turn round,
And sleep again in *peace profound*. (4)
But chief to thy narcotic aid,
O sage! from Woodley's classic shade!—(5)
Thy strength and sweetness, "happy mixture," (6)
We owe this peace (not yet a fixture!)
These wholesome slumbers, short but pleasing;
The brisk alarms those slumbers teazing;
This changeful course of noise and quiet,
Which keeps our pulse from running riot;
These armaments at *spring* and *fall*, (7)
O Sage! to thee we owe them all!
But, more than all, we love to dwell
On thy best talent, *meaning well!*
Whether thou flatter, or alarm us,
Th' *intention* never fails to charm us;
Whether, of peace retrenchments raving,
Thou promise *forty millions'* saving: (8)
Or (if a smaller sum content ye)
Reduce the boast to *five and twenty*;
Or, in bold phrases no way thrifty,
Of ships fit out a *monthly fifty*; (9)
Though every mortal man alive,
For FIFTY knows he *should* read FIVE,
Yet this small error no man mentions,
Still, still, we laud thy *good intentions!*
"'Twere best, no doubt, the truth to tell,
"But still, good soul! he *means so well!*"
Others, with *necromantic* skill,
May bend mens' passions to their will,

(1) See Wilberforce's Address to Yorkshire Freeholders, July, 1802. REG. Vol. II. p. 1617.

(2) "The *lowest* classes of the people are generally averse to engagements with Continental Powers; nor is that wonderful, being *uninformed* (as they necessarily are) of their *bearing* upon the safety and greatness of their own country. Else such is the patriotism pervading all ranks of the people of England, that they would gladly unite with whatever nation, to repel the aggressions of an enemy, and specially of France."—*Smellon's Analyst of Public Sentiment.*

(3) Terram, quæ mari undequaque circundatur, insulam vocamus.—CELLARIUS.

(4) See Mr. Addington's Speech on the Prince of Wales's Additional Annuity Bill, in which he assured the House that we were in a state of "*profound peace*," not ten days before the King's Message!—*Words ever to be remembered.*

(5) Woodley, lately the residence of Mr. Addington, situated in the neighbourhood of Reading where the great ball, in honour of the peace, was given on the 1st of Oct. 1802, at which Mr. A. assisted, and made a speech on the *durability of the peace*, just one week before he sent a remonstrance to Paris, which *might* have produced war, and not one month before he sent the order to retain the Cape, which (in its consequences) *must* produce it!—*circumstances never to be forgotten!*

(6) "By a *happy mixture* of firmness and conciliation we have made the peace, and hope to preserve it."—*Ministerial Speeches, passim.*

(7) It is good to begin this course of discipline at the *spring* and *fall* of the year; those being the seasons when the humours are most in circulation.—*Sydenham, Vol. I. c. 3. p. 215.*

(8) See Mr. Addington's various and varying statements of the savings to be made by the peace. At one time, in the Session of 1802, he boldly stated the amount at 40 millions. Before Christmas, on being asked the difference between a contracted war and an extended peace establishment (such as was then voted), he answered 25,000,000l. Considerable odds are taken that at the next budget (if he should ever see one) the diminution will be found still more considerable.

(9) "I engage upon an *emergency* to have *fifty ships of the line ready for sea in a month.*"—*Mr. Addington's Speech on Naval Estimate, Dec. 2, 1802.*—Ready for sea in the week beginning April 4th, or one month after the Message, according to some accounts 6, according to others 4 ships of the line. Quere, If the Message proved an "*emergency!*"

Raise with dark *spells* the tardy loan,
To shake the vaunting Consul's throne;—
In thee no *magic arts* surprise,
No *tricks* to cheat our wondering eyes;
On thee shall no suspicion fall,
Of *slight of hand*, or *cup and ball*,
E'en foes must own thy spotless fame,
Unbranded with a *Conjurer's Name!*
Ne'er shall thy virtuous thoughts conspire
To wrap majestic *Thames in fire!*
And if that black and nitrous grain,
Which strews the field with thousands slain,
Slept undiscover'd yet in earth—
Thou ne'er hadst caus'd the monstrous birth,
Nor aided (such thy pure *intention*)
That diabolical invention!
Hail then—on whom our state is leaning!
O! Minister of mildest meaning!
Blest with such virtues to talk big on,
With such a head (to hang a wig on)—
Head of wisdom—soul of candour—
Happy Britain's Guardian Gander, (10)
To rescue from th' invading *Gaul*
Her "Commerce, Credit, Capital!"—(11)
While Rome's great Goose could save alone
One Capitol—of senseless stone.

PARLIAMENTARY MINUTES, *from p.* 511.

Thursday, March 31.—LORDS.—English Militia Officers' Bill read a second time.

COMMONS.—The House proceeded to ballot for committees severally to try the merits of the petitions complaining of an undue election and return for Harwich and Berwick upon Tweed.—Mr. Smith brought up the Minutes of the Proceedings before the Ilchester Committee.—Mr. White brought up Extracts of the Minutes of the Proceedings before the Dumfermline Committee, as far as they relate to James Trotter.—Leave given to bring in a Bill for erecting a new Work-house in the Parish of St. James, Westminster.—Roman Catholic Oath Bill read a third time.—Bill for increasing the Rates for Inn-keepers for quartering Soldiers read a first time.

Friday, April 1.—LORDS.—Report of Clergy Non-residence Bill put and agreed to.—Roman Catholic Test Bill, and Woolwich Ordnance Trust Bill read a first time.—Bill for Naturalization of Christian Sanders read a second time.

COMMONS.—St. Giles' Burial Ground Bill read a third time and passed.—Mr. Rose moved "that there be laid before the House accounts of the value of the exports and imports for the last 18 years, ending Jan. 5, 1803, exclusive of the value of corn and other grain imported, and exclusive of the imports from China and the East Indies, setting forth the difference of the declared value of British manufactures exported in each year."—Ordered. Sir M. W. Ridley moved, "that the Charges contained "in the Resolution of the Committee against "John Simpson, Esq. the Major and returning "Officer for Great Grimsby, be referred to the consideration of the House." Agreed.—Sir M. W. Ridley then moved, "that the said Charges be referred to the consideration of this House on "Tuesday the 19th of April instant."—Ordered.

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(10) "Gander," the male or worthier of the goose species. *Argentus Anser*, always hitherto translated "Goose," erroneously.

(11) "We have three C.'s to rely upon in peace, "*Commerce, Credit, and Capital*;" just as our treaty turns upon three T.'s, the Time, the Tone, and the Terms.—*Ministerial Speeches, passim.*

—"That the said John Simpson, Esq. do attend "this House on the said 19th day of April instant."—Ordered.—"That a Copy of the said "Charges be sent to the said John Simpson, Esq. "and that he be at liberty to be heard by his "Counsel thereon."—Ordered.—"That William "Reeder, Esq. and several other persons named, "do attend on that day, in order to be examined "touching the matter of the said Charges.."—Ordered.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved, "that as doubts existed as to the construction to "be put on Mr. Burke's Act, for Regulation of the "Civil List, it be an instruction to the Civil List "Committee, to consider so much of the Act as re-"lates to the establishment of invariable order in "his Majesty's Civil List, and to provide for the "liquidation by classes of the debts affecting it."—Ordered.—American Commissioners Bill passed a Committee of the whole House, and Report ordered to be received on Monday.—Report of Four Millions Exchequer Bills brought up and agreed to.—Report of Sir J. Saumarez's Annuity Bill brought up and agreed to.—Bill for increasing the Rate of Subsistence to Inn-keepers on quartering Soldiers, read a second time.

Monday, April 4.—LORDS.—Counsel finally heard respecting the claim of the Rev. Mr. Brydges to the Barony of Chandos, Bill for Naturalization of Mr. Maurice de Johnn, read a second time.

COMMONS.—Mr. Tierney moved, "that James "Trotter, having been duly summoned with the "Speaker's warrant, &c. and disobeyed such war-"rant and order, had been guilty of a breach of "the privilege of this House.—Carried *nem. con.* Mr. Tierney then moved, "that the said James "Trotter be for his said offence, committed to his "Majesty's gaol of Newgate." Ordered *nem. con.* that the Speaker do issue his warrant accordingly.—Sir J. Saumarez's Annuity Bill and Exchequer Bills Bill read a third time and passed.—Mr. Corry presented a Petition from the Trustees of the Irish Lying-in-Hospital, praying for leave to present a Petition for the purpose of obtaining Parliamentary aid.—Leave granted.—Report of American Commissioner's Bill brought up and agreed to.

Tuesday, April 5.—LORDS.—Sir J. Saumarez's Annuity Bill read a first time.

COMMONS.—Sir J. Frederick moved, for leave to bring in a Bill for rebuilding Christ Church in the County of Surry. Leave granted.—The Solicitor General moved, for leave to bring in a Bill to empower the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal to direct the sale or mortgage of the freehold properties of Lunatics.—Leave given.—Southampton Water Works Bill read a third time and passed.—Mr. Tierney moved, "that an ac-"count of the sums paid into, and of the charges "upon, the consolidated fund from the 5th Jan. "1802, to the 5th Jan. 1803, be laid before the "House." Ordered.—Also that an account of the net produce of the permanent taxes on the 5th of January, and on the 5th April, 1803, be laid before the House, distinguishing the quarters.—Ordered.—Mr. Addington brought up the Report of the Survey of the Highlands of Scotland. Ordered to be printed.—American Commissioners Bill read a third time and passed.—Coroner's Bill read a second time.

Wednesday, April 6.—LORDS.—Roman Catholic Test Bill, Woolwich Ordnance Bill, &c.—Militia Officers' Bill read a third time and passed.—Exchequer Bills Bill, and Sir J. Saumarez's Annuity Bill read a second time.

COMMONS.—Sir J. Pulteney reported, from the

Committee appointed to try the merits of the Petition complaining of an undue Election for the County of Carmarthen, that the sitting Member J. H. Williams, Esq. was duly elected, and that the Petition was not frivolous nor vexatious.—Glasgow Theatre Bill read a second time.—Lord Hervey reported from the Committee appointed to try the merits of the Petitions complaining of an undue Election for Berwick upon Tweed, that the Committee had determined that Thomas Hall, Esq. and John Fordyce, Esq. were not duly elected; also that the Petitions were not frivolous or vexatious.—Southwark Paving Bill and Surry Rail-way Bill, read a third time and passed.—Sir W. Scott moved, for leave to bring in a Bill "to amend and "render more effectual an Act for preventing the "Clergy from holding farms, and for enforcing pa-"rochial residence."—Leave granted.—A new writ was issued for the Election of two Members for the Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed.—Mr. Tierney moved, "that a sum not exceeding "£12,626 be granted, to enable His Majesty to "make a compensation to George Martin, the "younger, Esq. for losses sustained by him in "America, &c." Motion put and carried.—Mr. Corry brought up a Bill for continuing several Acts of Parliament for collecting the Revenue of Ireland, and to prevent fraud therein.—Read a first time

Thursday, April 7.—LORDS.—Royal assent given by commission to 28 public and private Bills.—Lord Ellenborough moved, "that there be laid "before the House the Registry of the Burials at "certain Parishes in the County of Kent, at par-"ticular periods, in the year 1641 and 1642."—The Lord Chancellor moved, "that the decree of "the Scotch Court, in the case Lawson, *v.* Ross "and others be affirmed." On the motion of Lord Hobart, the House adjourned to the 19th instant.

COMMONS.—Col. Mitford reported from the Committee appointed to try the merits of the petition complaining of an undue election for the borough of Harwich, that the Committee had determined, that Thomas Myers, Esq. was not duly elected; that James Adams, Esq. the petitioner was duly elected and ought to have been returned, and that the opposition to the petition was not frivolous nor vexatious.—Innkeeper's Subsistence Bill read a third time and passed.—Dr. Duigenan presented several petitions against the Irish Courts of Law Bill.—Clergy Non-residence Bill read a first time.—Mr. Addington moved, "That there be laid before the House, an Account of the Annual Produce of the Revenue of the Corporation of Queen Anne's Bounty, for the Augmentation of the Livings of the poor Clergy, from the time of their incorporation to the latest period when the same could be made up: and also, an Account of the Annual Application of the said Revenue, the number of benefices augmented by them, and to what amount." Ordered.—Report of Grenada Loan Bill agreed to, and ordered to be read a third time.—Irish Revenue Regulation Bill read a second time.—Sugar Exportation Bill read a first time. House adjourned to Tuesday the 19th instant.

Tuesday, April 19.—LORDS.—Four Million Exchequer Loan Bill, Sir J. Saumarez's Annuity Bill, and American Loyalists' Commissioners' Bill, read a third time and passed.

COMMONS.—Sir J. W. Anderson moved for leave to bring in a Bill for establishing a free market for the sale of coals. Leave granted.—Grenada Loan Bill read a third time and passed.—A Committee was appointed to prepare an Estimate of the Allowance to Subaltern officers of the Militia in time of peace.—A petition was presented from the electors of Coventry, complaining of an undue election for the above city. Ordered to be taken into consideration on the 19th of August.—A similar petition was also presented from Ilchester. Ordered to be taken into consideration on the 22d August.

Wednesday, April 20.—COMMONS.—Sir J. W. Anderson moved for leave to bring in a Bill for the better regulation of the leather trade. Leave granted.—On the Order of the Day being moved for taking into consideration the Report of the Committee appointed to try the merits of the Nottingham Election, Mr. Hawkins moved the following resolutions, viz.—1. "That it appears to this Committee, that John Allen, being the returning officer at the last election for the town and county of the town of Nottingham, acted contrary to his duty in opening a poll, and proceeding to take the votes of electors for the period of about an hour, and until forty-four electors had polled, there being, during the whole of that time, no third candidate." Consideration postponed.—Resolution 2. "That it appears to this Committee, that after the first day of the said election, the freedom of the election was grossly violated by disturbances and riots, accompanied with personal intimidation and violence, practised and continued during the six subsequent days of polling." Agreed to.—3. "That it appears to this Committee, that the petitioner, Daniel Parker Coke, Esq. after sustaining several insults and suffering personal violence, was obliged, from the just apprehension of hazard to his life, to leave the place, and could not venture to return; and that a large number of electors in his interest, were deterred from exercising their franchise of voting." Agreed to.—4. "That it appears to this Committee, that John Davison, the Mayor, and Joseph Oldknow, and Thomas Oldknow, two of the aldermen of the said town and county of the town of Nottingham, took no effectual means to preserve the freedom of election, or restore it when so violated, or to punish the offenders." Agreed to.—5. "That it appears to this Committee, by an entry in the corporation-book of the town and county of the town of Nottingham, that at a Common Hall, held on Thursday the 8th day of Jan. last past, (after reciting the petitions referred to this Committee,) it was 'Resolved, that this corporation 'will defray all such legal expenses as have al-'ready been, or shall hereafter be, incurred by 'them the said John Davison, Joseph Oldknow, 'Thomas Oldknow, and John Allen, or either of 'them, or George Coldham, under their direction, 'in preparing for, or making, their defence; and 'that the Chamberlains for the time being be 'hereby authorized and directed, from time to 'time, to advance Mr. Coldham all and every 'such sum and sums of money as may be neces-'sary for this purpose.'—Consideration postponed.—Mr. H. Browne then moved "for leave to bring in a Bill for more effectually securing the peace of the town and county of the town of Nottingham: and also, "that no new writ should issue for the town of Nottingham till this day three weeks. Agreed to.—Mr. Horrocks moved, "That there be laid before the House an Account of the quantity of cotton twist and yarn, imported from, and exported to India, from the years 1750 to 1788.

Thursday, April 21.—COMMONS.—Clergy Non-residence Bill read a second time.—A petition was

presented, complaining of an undue election for Ilchester.—Ordered to be taken into consideration on the same day as the former petition presented from that time.—Irish Revenue Law Bill read 3d time & passed.—Lunatic Property Bill read 2d time.

Friday, April 22.—LORDS.—Royal assent given by commission to the Four Million Exchequer Bill, the Militia Officers' Establishment Bill, the American Loyalists' Commissioners' Bill, Sir J. Sanmarez's Annuity Bill, and several private bills.

COMMONS.—Glasgow Theatre Bill, Expiring Laws Bill, and Irish Revenue Bill, read a third time and passed.—On the order of the day being moved for taking into consideration the Report of the Committee appointed to try the merits of the Ilchester election, Mr. Smith moved the following resolutions. 1. "That such a system of corruption was formed, and such instances of individual acts of bribery were committed, previous to the said election, with a view to influence the same, as to render it incumbent on this Committee to submit the same to the most serious consideration of the House; in order that such proceedings may be instituted thereon as the House in its wisdom may think proper to adopt." Agreed to. —2. "That Alexander Davison, of St. James's Square, was engaged in the said system of corruption." Further consideration of this resolution was put off till Monday fortnight.—Clergy Non-residence Bill went through a Committee, and Report ordered to be taken into consideration on Tuesday the 3d of May. The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved, "That the Report drawn up by order of the Lords of the Treasury, by a person employed to make a Survey of the Highlands of Scotland be referred to a Select Committee, of which five are to make a quorum." Agreed to.

Monday, April 25.—LORDS.—Judgment was given in the Scotch Appeal, Syme, *v.* Dickson, and the decree of the Court of Session was affirmed.—Grenada Loan Bill, read a third time and passed.

COMMONS.—Admiral Berkeley presented a petition from the weavers of the county of Gloucester against the woollen manufacturer's Bill.—Leave granted to bring in a Bill for the improvement of the harbour of Greenock.—Mr. Fox presented a petition from the Mayor, Corporation, &c. of the town of Nottingham, praying for leave to be heard by counsel against the Nottingham Franchise Bill.—A new writ was ordered for the county of Nottingham in the room of Lord Edw. Cavendish Bentinck who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.—On the order of the day being moved for taking into consideration the merits of the Report brought up from the Committee appointed to try the merits of the Great Grimsby election, Sir M. W. Ridley moved that John Simpson be called to the bar. This being done, Sir M. W. Ridley moved the following resolutions. — 1. "That it appears to this Committee, That John Simpson, Esq. mayor and returning officer of the borough of Great Grimsby, did, on the day previous to the said election, hold a full court of mayor, aldermen, common councilmen, and burgesses of the said borough; at which court the said John Simpson did unlawfully, and of his own authority, admit certain persons to the freedom of the said borough, to whom objections were stated, and did refuse to submit to the consideration and judgment of the aldermen, common councilmen, and burgesses of the said borough, assembled at the said full court, the right of such persons to be admitted to their freedom, which, by the constitution of the borough, as determined by a resolution of a Committee of the House of Commons, reported to this House on the 11th day of April 1793, he ought to have done; and that the said John Simpson did also partially, unlawfully, and of his own authority, refuse to admit certain persons, who claimed at the said full court to be admitted freemen of the said borough, to their freedom therein, and did also refuse to submit to the aldermen, common councilmen, and burgesses of the said borough, in the said full court assembled, the right of such persons to be admitted to their freedom, and which by the aforesaid constitution he ought to have done.—That the said John Simpson, at and during the election, did act partially in the execution of his office as returning officer, and did, at the poll, partially and unlawfully reject the votes tendered by several persons having a right to vote at the said election, which votes he the said John Simpson ought to have received; and also did, at the said poll, partially and unlawfully receive and admit the votes of several persons who had no right to vote at the said election, which votes he the said John Simpson ought as returning officer to have rejected. —Mr. Simpson being called upon for his defence, said, "that he was a poor man, that he had a wife and five children, that he rented a small farm of 50l. a year, but he was to quit as much as came to 40l. on the 12th May, that what he had done proceeded from ignorance, for which he was very sorry, that he asked pardon of the House, and threw himself upon its mercy."—Sir M. W. Ridley then moved, "that the said J. Simpson be taken into the custody of the Serjeant at Arms." Agreed to.—Edinburgh Road Bill recommitted.

Tuesday, April 26.—LORDS.—St. Pancras Poor House Bill read a second time.—Earl Moira presented two petitions against the bill.—Counsel heard on the Appeal Cause, the King *v.* the County of Cumberland.

COMMONS.—Sir L. Parsons presented a petition from the Grand Jury of the King's County against the Dublin Royal Canal Bill.—Mr. Jekyl presented a petition from certain woollen manufacturers of Yorkshire against the Woollen Clothier's Regulation Bill.—Colonel Longfield presented a petition from the Tanners of Cork complaining of the mode of collecting the tax on leather.—Mr. Vansittart moved, "that an account of the net produce of all the permanent taxes of Great Britain from April 5, 1802, to April 5, 1803, should be laid before the House." Ordered.—Militia Families Provision Bill recommitted.

Wednesday, April 27.—LORDS.—Ld. Auckland moved for an account of the sums granted to the commissioners appointed to manage Q. Anne's Bounty.—Bill for better regulation of the law with respect to certain capital offences read a 2d time. —Sugar and Coffee bill, Irish Revenue bill, Innkeepers' Military Quarters' bill read a 2d time.

COMMONS.—Mr. Bragge moved for leave to bring in a bill to improve the harbour of Bristol.—Woollen Manufacturers' bill read a 2d time.—Mr. Dickens moved, that counsel be heard against the Woollen Manufacturers' bill. Agreed to.—Mr. Lee moved for leave to present a petition against the Irish Courts of Law bill. Granted.—Petition presented from the tanners of Waterford against the mode of collecting the tax on leather.—Sheerness Pier bill read a 1st time.

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